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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, 2013

MAESTEG'S NEW MARKET IS OPEN Page 4



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CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE Pages 20-21

Pencoed woman's 870-mile charity walk around Wales



Bitter blow for Beth as she loses drug appeal

ABOVE:
Around 200 walkers were on Porthcawl seafront yesterday, joining the Porthcawl to Southerndown leg of a walk around Wales in aid of a Forces charity. However, one Pencoed woman, Alison Elson, has led the way by completing every leg of the trek - which finishes on Saturday in Cardiff. (SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 10)

Eternity with Love

Wedding Fayre THIS SUNDAY

November 3rd 2013
at the **Coed-Y-Mwstwr Hotel, Coychurch**
Free Admission - 11am-4pm

Wedding Exhibition at Wales Millennium Centre, in Cardiff Bay

Sunday 5th January 2014
11.00am - 4.00pm

- 3 Fabulous Catwalk Shows 12.00 midday, 1.30pm and 3.00pm. Presented by Ruth Wignall, ITV Wales
- Goody bags compliments of Debenhams for the first 250 brides
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For details visit our website:
www.eternitywithlove.co.uk

PORHCWL
Beth Margeson has suffered a major setback in her campaign to be prescribed a cancer drug that could prolong her life, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

Only last week, The GEM reported on the large turnout of supporters who joined a charity walk from Margam to Porthcawl.

It was just one example of how Beth's plight

has touched people in Porthcawl and in Bridgend, where she teaches in the local college.

Beth's consultant has advised that she should be given Afinitor, a drug that is available on the NHS in England.

However, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University (ABMU) health board has refused to do so, because the drug is not yet approved

by NICE (the national Institute of Clinical Excellence).

Last week, Beth suffered the bitter blow of having her appeal against the ABMU decision turned down. She angrily commented that there was not one oncologist on the panel that made the decision.

She has already been forced to pay more than £3,000 for a month's treatment, and a similar

bill is looming.

It prompted Beth to write a bitter and despairing letter to her local AM, the First Minister, Carwyn Jones

In the letter, she said that it was "appalling and immoral" that "people with no medical or clinical skills" were deciding on her cancer treatment.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

Accused man in Cardiff court

AN Ynysawdre man, who has been charged with murder, appeared at Cardiff Crown Court on Tuesday (October 29).

James Curtis, aged 26, of Heol Yr Ysgol, was charged following the death of 50-year-old Kevin Hier in the Tondur area.

The case was adjourned, and a trial is expected to take place next year.

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'CONFIDENCE NEEDED' SAYS MP A sea change for Porthcawl tourism

THE Bridgend MP, Madeleine Moon, met Karl Schmidtke, regional director at Parkdean Holiday Park at Trecco Bay, Porthcawl, last week to discuss the impact of tourism on the economy of Porthcawl.

She commented: "Porthcawl's tourism footprint is high because Trecco Bay remains the largest caravan holiday park in Europe, with nearly 2,000 caravans and a number of wooden lodges on the park.

"In the last 12 years, there have been a number of redevelopments on the site to reflect the new holiday market and higher expectations of those who holiday in Wales.

"Today's caravans are big, luxurious, with central heating, some with spacious verandas and ample space for parking.

"It was good to hear that the 4* Parkdean

Holiday Park in Porthcawl was doing well, with high numbers of holidaymakers throughout the year. The yearly Jazz and Elvis festivals in the town had increased holiday trade to the park and Karl Schmidtke, regional director since 2007, was eager to diversify and develop the park further in years to come."

The MP went on: "Sea change was a word that cropped up time and time again during our discussions about tourism. I was surprised to learn that holidaymakers were now coming here from Spain, Germany and the Netherlands – all helped by the regular flights into Cardiff Airport.

"Tourism, we both agreed, was changing and with the regeneration of Porthcawl Harbour and surrounding area, there was an air of revitalisation in the town and confidence was needed to embrace that change."



ABOVE:
Madeleine Moon and Karl Schmidtke.

Women 'not prepared for retirement'

FOLLOWING the release of figures on women's attitudes to pensions, Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon raises serious concerns on the effects of the cost of living crisis on how women are preparing for retirement.

She said that the release of figures by both Scottish Widows and the Asda Income Tracker had shown that a combination of pensioners being targeted by unscrupulous companies, and younger women feeling they can't afford to save for retirement, has led to all groups losing out.

"Scottish Widows figures revealed that 43 per cent of women in their early 60s felt that they are adequately prepared for later life – but that once they have retired, 36 per cent of women admitted their income was less than expected.

"This has been blamed on increasing number of pension savers being targeted by companies encouraging them to access their pension savings early.

"This is commonly known as 'pension liberation' and has significant tax consequences.

"As well as this, half

of women aged 22-29 do not even have a pension scheme. Younger women are no longer feeling they can save for retirement; affordability is a huge barrier to saving, with two-thirds of 40 to 49 year olds who aren't members of a private pension scheme saying it is because they cannot access the cash required to save.

"When we combine this with the figures from the annual Asda Income Tracker, we can see that more and more women have to choose between getting by on a day-to-day basis, and saving for their retirement.

"Average household discretionary income is down on the previous year, with wage growth at a mere 0.8 per cent and energy bills rising by over 8 per cent.

"The financial crisis and freeze on wages will have long term impact especially on women who are unable to save for a financially secure retirement.

"In the struggle to keep reducing income meeting rising costs of rent, fuel and food women are as usual putting the family first and their own future very much second.

"These are deeply worrying figures," Mrs Moon concluded.

Lunch for borough mayor's charity fund

THE Bridgend County Civic Charity Appeals Committee, and The Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend, Coun Clive James, are holding a charity Sunday lunch at the Great House Hotel and Restaurant, Laleston, Bridgend on Sunday, November 3 2013 at 12.30pm.

Tickets are £25 and the guest speaker is Win Griffiths. His topic is 'Inside the Ayatollah's Prison' and other stories.

For further information, contact M Major, on 01656 664105.

Green-fingered pensioners turn Eco Warriors to win UK sustainability award

A GROUP of green-fingered pensioners from a Wales & West Housing Bridgend retirement scheme are celebrating – after scooping a top national sustainability award.

Jeff Bunce (65) and Derek Rose (77) represented the Western Court Eco Warriors at the ceremony in London's Lancaster Hotel last week, organised by Inside Housing magazine and its sister-publication Sustainable Housing.

The group, from Western Court, on Oaklands Road, beat off stiff competition from more than 100 entries from around the UK to win Sustainable Housing Green Tenant of the Year and were presented with their trophy by stand-up comedian, TV and radio regular, Josie Long.

"We are still in shock," said Jeff, grandfather of two. "When we saw the quality of the other entries we thought we had



ABOVE: Jeff Bunce (left) and Derek Rose with their trophy.

absolutely no chance, but then when they said we had won, well, we were just stunned.

"We had an absolutely brilliant day in London and have already taken the award around the scheme and shown it to everyone, because it's for all of us and what we do at Western Court, not just me and Derek."

Western Court's Eco Warriors impressed the judges with their com-

mitment to growing their own fruit and veg, recycling whatever materials they can use to create features in their gardens including decking, fencing, plant holders and bird feeders, doing what they can to encourage biodiversity in their gardens, and using the gardens and their produce as a whole as a healthy way to bring the community of Western Court together.

Using the communal gardens at the Wales & West Housing retirement scheme on Oaklands Road, Jeff, Derek and the team at Western Court have nurtured one of the friendliest – and greenest – communities imaginable.

Recent innovations include: planting 'bee happy' bulbs, lavender and wildflowers to encourage insects and especially bees and planting rare native Welsh fruit trees – Denbigh Plum, Criad Cheery and Snowdon Queen Pear.

Produce from the scheme's gardens is regularly cooked and eaten by all residents at shared meals, helping to combat loneliness and isolation.

"The veg we grow is good, getting together is good, the exercise is good and the gardens are something to look at no matter what time of the year it is," said Jeff, a former bus driver.

"We've had a lot of support and help from Wales & West, in fact without them we wouldn't have been able to do all we have done.

"But we love doing it and I think at the end of the day, our gardens have helped to make us all that little bit healthier here."

The closing date for all boxes and donations is Monday, November 18. The Specsavers store is on Adare Street.

All eyes on shoebox appeal!

STAFF at Specsavers, Bridgend, are supporting the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal.

They are filling the festive shoeboxes for the appeal, organised by charity Samaritan's Purse, which provides gifts to needy children in more than 100 countries every year.

Paul Morris, director of Specsavers store in Bridgend, says: "Christmas is a time when more people look forward to giving and receiving gifts from loved ones, but not everyone is so lucky, and it is also a time when we should be thinking of those who are in a less privileged position.

"We very much enjoy taking part in Operation Christmas child, and have done so for the last five years. Last year, we managed to collect around 150 shoeboxes and this year we're hoping to beat that total, so it

would be fantastic for people to support us and help to make a disadvantaged child's Christmas a happy one."

Anyone wanting to donate a box should specify whether it is intended for a boy or girl, as well as an age category: two to four-years old, five to nine, or 10 to 14, which organisers say must be made clear on the outside packaging.

The boxes, which will be despatched to less fortunate children in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, can contain toys, sweets, letters and necessity items such as toothbrushes and soap. A donation of £3 for each box should also be made for the associated delivery costs that the charity is charged.

The closing date for all boxes and donations is Monday, November 18. The Specsavers store is on Adare Street.

SOS for more foster carers

MORE local people are being urged to become foster carers, after a recent survey revealed that myths surrounding fostering still exist.

The appeal came from Bridgend County Borough Council: "Many people incorrectly believe that those aged above 55, gay people, and men are all barred from becoming foster carers. Other myths include the belief that you can't foster if you live in rented accommodation or don't work. Additionally some people don't realise that foster carers receive financial support," a spokeswoman said.

Record numbers of children are entering the care system, and figures produced by the Fostering Network reveal that 600 foster families are needed in Wales during 2013 to cope with the increase.

In Bridgend county borough alone, the number of children coming into care last year increased by 12 per cent to a total of 387 'looked after children'. And

nation-wide, the total number of children who are fostered has risen for six years in a row.

"Without new foster families, many children are forced to live a long way from family, friends and school or will need to live in residential care," explained Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people.

"It is astonishing that myths still exist in foster care. We face a big challenge and our aim is to encourage more people to provide temporary homes to children in care. With record levels of children coming into care and 13 per cent of foster carers leaving the service each year, there is a real need to recruit and tackle the misconceptions".

The Bridgend Foster Care team organises 'meet and greet' sessions that provide friendly information on fostering, including a no-obligation chat with social workers and current foster carers.

The next session will take place on Wednesday, November 13 from 7pm-9pm at Bryngarw House.

Children's role is honoured

SONS and daughters who welcome foster children into their own families across Bridgend County Borough are being celebrated as part of national awareness week.

In recognition of the incredible contribution foster carers' own children make in helping to create welcoming, loving families, Bridgend County Borough Council is supporting 'Sons and Daughters Week' (October 28 - November 3).

It is widely acknowledged that sons and daughters find being part of a foster family extremely rewarding,

with many keeping in touch with the children and young people after they move on.

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, explained: "Ultimately, it's not just adults that foster children. Many foster carers have their own children who share their homes, their toys and, above all, their parents, with foster brothers and sisters.

"In addition they have to cope with sometimes difficult and challenging behaviour."

For more information on Bridgend Foster Care, call 01656 642674, or you can visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/fostering

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL NOVEMBER 07)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
31 Thur	03.43	8.3	15.59	8.7
01 Fri	04.25	8.9	16.46	9.2
02 Sat	05.07	9.4	17.25	9.7
03 Sun	05.49	9.9	17.59	10.1
04 Mon	06.27	10.2	18.48	10.2
05 Tues	07.11	10.3	19.31	10.3
06 Wed	07.52	10.2	20.14	10.0
07 Thur	08.38	9.9	21.01	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

Bridgend Enterprise in Action impresses Minister

HOUSING Minister, Carl Sargeant, visited a social enterprise in Bridgend last week to see how homeless people are being helped to rebuild their lives in a self-supporting community.

Emmaus offers homeless people a place to stay and full-time work within the social enterprise which recycles furniture and household goods.

The items, donated by local people, are refurbished by the workers before they are resold in their second-hand stores.

The Minister said: "It's great to see at first hand how this much needed project is helping homeless people in the Bridgend area turn their lives around."

"I am hugely impressed by the way the enterprise has expanded in such a short space of time and by

their model of supporting vulnerable homeless people.

"Emmaus's record of working with marginalised and homeless people is very welcome."

"As the UK Government's welfare reform cuts take effect projects like Emmaus will be vital as the number of people presenting themselves as homeless is likely to increase significantly."

"The Welsh Government is committed to doing all it can to mitigate this, and that is why the Housing Bill I plan to introduce next month will include a range of measures to tackle homelessness."

"It is important that we recognise the role played by the third sector in providing not only accommodation to homeless people, but also in helping them to lead independent lives."

Residents invited to library parade

BRIDGEND County Borough Council is inviting local residents to join the celebrations as Bridgend Library moves into its new home.

The council is welcoming everyone from grandparents to grandchildren to assemble outside the current library on Wyndham Street at 2pm on Wednesday, November 20 to collect their favourite book, before joining a special parade to Bridgend Recreation Centre where they can check out the books using the library's 'state-of-the-art' self-service machines.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing, said: "The opening of the new Bridgend library is going to be an exciting time for people in Bridgend, so it's great that they can become part of the celebrations by joining the parade."

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NOTTAGE QUIZ BENEFITS THE MENINGITIS TRUST



The cheque is presented to Liz Gibbs-Murray of the Meningitis Trust.

ON Sunday, October 27, Hayley Williams had the pleasure of presenting a cheque for £500 to Liz Gibbs-Murray from the Meningitis Research Trust.

The money had been raised from a Sunday evening quiz

held at The Swan in Nottage over the last few weeks. Hayley hosts the quiz and is delighted with the generosity of fellow quizzers.

The money has been raised by donations of 10p for an incorrect answer and various other ways of raising funds. Hayley would like to thank all who

took part in the quiz and also all the volunteers, her husband Andrew, Kay and David Boswell, Marion and Clive Jones who collected the money, dealt out raffle tickets for correct answers and counted funds collected over the weeks.

Sincere thanks also go to Eddie Edwards, Dave Prosser, Matt Swift for donating tickets for a concert at the Hi-Tide, and Becky Ford for her hamper full of goodies.

Thanks also go to the regular quizzers, people at the Swan Inn for their generous donations, and Merf for setting up his equipment.

The quiz will continue at The Swan, starting at 5.30pm every Sunday for a new charity Tenovus.

All are welcome to participate, with no written pages. Come along and join in the fun at any time during the evening.

Porthcawl sea defences open to the public

PROPOSALS and ideas for potential new sea defences at Porthcawl's town beach are set to be revealed next week, a spokesperson for Bridgend County Borough Council reports.

"CBCB has organised a public drop-in event between 11am-8pm at the Grand Pavilion on Wednesday, November 6 to give people in Porthcawl an informal opportunity to find out more and pass on their views and thoughts."

Sea defences at the town beach include a large amount of asphalt set in place in 1984 to prevent erosion and reduce the chance of waves breaking over the top of the promenade. As part of its shoreline management plan, the council is now considering a range of new options that could provide a more efficient and longer-term solution over the next hundred years.

More details will be made available at the drop-in session, and council officers and specialist consultants will be on hand to answer questions and collect feedback from local residents.

The information will also be available to view at the Grand Pavilion between November 6-15.

Coun Phil White, cabinet member for communities, said: "The sea defences at Porthcawl's town beach have been in place for almost 30 years and have performed well so far, but the time has come to look towards the future."

"We have developed a number of options which take into account issues such as rising sea levels, environmental impacts, improved levels of defence and ongoing maintenance costs, and want to know what people think about them."

"We'll use information gathered as part of the drop-in session to develop the options further, and will organise more formal consultation before any final decision is made."

Film award for Bridgend young starlet

A LEADING lady of the future has been discovered in Bridgend county borough - acting starlet Lowri Izzard has scooped the best supporting actress award at this year's 'It's My Shout' premiere and awards ceremony held at the Wales Millennium Centre.

Former Bridgend Youth Theatre member Lowri, who is currently completing her first year at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, picked up the award for her role in 'A Proper Little Family', which was filmed as part of the 'It's My Shout' film and TV training scheme.

Originally developed in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council, the scheme is now in its eleventh year. Over 1,000 young actors and crew members from across Wales took part in the eight films produced this year.

Among the collection of films, which were unveiled at the glitzy premiere and awards ceremony, were coming of age tale 'Now or Never'

and long-distance relationship story 'Say It', which were both filmed in Bridgend County Borough.

As part of the event, popular actor and comedian Rob Brydon, who is a former Porthcawl Comprehensive School pupil, picked up a special 'Inspiration Award' for the example he sets for the next generation of Welsh acting talent.

Coun Lyn Morgan, said: "It's delightful to see the 'It's My Shout' scheme which was originally developed in Bridgend county borough thriving as a nationwide initiative more than ten years on."

"The county borough has a rich history of producing talented individuals such as Rob Brydon, and it's pleasing that the scheme is helping the next generation of gifted individuals like Lowri to break into the industry and make a name for themselves."

For more information about the 'It's My Shout' training scheme, or to get involved with acting in Bridgend county borough, contact 'It's My Shout' on 01656 858187, or email BYTinfo@itsmyshout.co.uk.

BRIDGEND BRIDGE CLUB

THE results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events were:

Wednesday, October 23, the club team's championship -

1st, John Beard, Liam Sheridan, Ray Smith and John Evans; 2nd, Mike Best, Kevin Maddox, Dave Barwood and Jane Brook; 3rd, Julian Pottage, Roger Penton, Tony Haworth and Robert Charlesworth.

Friday, October 25 - 1st, John Moore and Mildred Trigg-Knight; +2nd, Emer Disley and John Whateley and Graham Jones and Irene Thomas.

In addition to the regular club nights on Wednesdays and Fridays at Noltan Church Hall at 7pm to which all bridge

players are welcome, on Thursdays from 2pm-5pm, also at Noltan Church Hall, there are gentle Bridge sessions primarily for the less experienced and where assistance is available.

The best placed improvers for Thursday, October 24 were Stuart Davies, Susan Hunt, Christine Davies, Leila O'Hagan and Diane Reynolds.

Lessons for improvers also take place on a Thursday afternoon.

To register an interest, please contact

Steve Burgoyne 01656 661968, or John Evans 01656 880372, either of whom will welcome your call. DN

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MAESTEG'S NEW £2.5M MARKET IS OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

AFTER undergoing a £2.5 million revamp, Maesteg's new market is officially open for business, marking a fresh start and a historic new chapter in the town's history.

Thirteen modern market units have been built around a new market square and the design incorporates a canopy in front of the buildings to protect shoppers from the elements, as well as a permanent events stage.

The new facility was officially opened by Coun Mel Nott OBE, the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), along with local AM Janice Gregory, Maesteg Town Mayor Coun Ross Thomas and Bridgend County Borough Mayor, Coun Clive James.

Coun Nott said: "We wanted to establish an all-new, high-quality facility that would strengthen the town centre's commercial competitiveness and make it more attractive for investors, shoppers and visitors alike."

"The new outdoor market area is designed to provide a fresh focus for local independent retailing, help safeguard

existing jobs and businesses and act as a catalyst for further improvements, which will be most welcome during the current economic climate."

Links with the nearby bus station have been improved and will soon be joined by a much-needed new indoor waiting room. A unique piece of public art will also be installed to help give the area a greater sense of character and identity and act as temporary stalls or café tables.

Coun Nott added: "We want the new market and square to serve as a focal point for the community. The old market could only be described as being functional at best and wasn't a particularly attractive place for shoppers to go, but that's all changed now and this new facility will be a real asset for the town."

The events stage in the square will be hosting a number of events in the run up to Christmas. Families can enjoy a free Halloween Fun Day on Friday, November 1 (9am - 4pm), while a 'Stars in the Square' event later that same day between 6pm and 9.30pm will feature West End performer Sophie Evans, the Maesteg and District Male Choir, and Ash Morgan, who sang

his way to the semi-finals of TV show 'The Voice' earlier this year. Tickets cost £7 for adults, or £5 for concessions.

The square is also set to host a food and craft market on Saturday, November 23, as well as an ice skating rink from December 7-14.

The £2.5 million Maesteg Market has been funded by the European Regional Development Fund, the Welsh Government's Western Valleys Strategic Regeneration Area Fund and BCBC.

Coun Nott added: "I'd like to thank our main contractors, LGA Birkett, Capita Symmonds and Powell Dobson for the work they have done here. Also, it's not possible to undertake a project of this size and scale in such a confined space without causing some temporary inconvenience, so I also want to thank the traders of Maesteg Market, both indoor and outdoor, for their patience and co-operation while work on the project has taken place."

You can find out more about the forthcoming events at Maesteg Market Square by going online at www.bridgend-bites.com or by following @BridgendCBC on twitter.



Pictured above are BCBC leader Mel Nott, Bridgend county borough Mayor Coun Clive James, the Maesteg Mayor, Coun Ross Thomas, Ogmores Assembly Member Janice Gregory, and BCBC cabinet members who officially opened Maesteg Market and square.



The modern units at the new market feature all-weather canopies.



Traders are celebrating the fact that the new Maesteg Market is open for business.



Singer Naomi Edwards from Maesteg, performed at the official opening, and the square's stage will also be the venue for future events.

Hallowe'en event publicises ADHD cause



From left to right; Coun Luke Ellis, ADHD Bridgend Angel Leanne Llewellyn, and vice-chair Zoe Piper.

LOCAL ADHD charity, ADHD Bridgend has joined forces with Wyndham Street Barbers and Beauty Shop Look Sharp to raise awareness of ADHD as customers get trimmed and massaged in style.

Rugby star, Tylon Mafi, and local hairdresser, Debbie Yardley, have decided to support the locally based charity, which helps support local families and adults living with ADHD by holding a series of events and fundraising fun days at the salon, starting today (Thursday) with a Hallowe'en event that will take to the streets of town with a ghoulish tour in aid of ADHD Bridgend.

Face painting and spooky glitter tattoos will be on offer at Look Sharp from 9.30am, with the fun fancy dress walk setting off from 10.30am.

ADHD Bridgend vice-chair Zoe Piper said: "We are so grateful to Look Sharp for nominating us as their

special chosen charity.

"The trips we run and the crucial support work we do for families in Bridgend is so valuable to the people we help, and it's only through donations and kind support from local businesses like Look Sharp, along with the fundraising carried out by our ADHD Angels that enable us to continue."

Debbie Yardley, who this year raised over £1,000 for ADHD Bridgend with her annual Richard Jenkins memorial charity walk added: "We've collected the Echo Wish tokens for ADHD Bridgend, we've walked seven miles in fancy dress to raise smiles and cash, and we are continuing to support this important local charity by holding a Hallowe'en walk this Thursday in town."

"I can't think of a more deserving cause, and when you see how happy these families are when they get the support and recognition of their condition, it's amazing."

Older people's champion speaks to Porthcawl U3A

OLDER People's Commissioner for Wales, Sarah Rochira, was guest speaker at the latest meeting of Porthcawl University of the Third Age (U3A).

The group meets once a month for a lecture and the Commissioner's visit formed part of her Engagement Roadshow, which is meeting with older people's groups and organisations around Wales.

The University of the Third Age is for people who want to keep active in mind and body, enjoy socialising, and are no longer in full time employment. The Porthcawl group has over 500 members and 34 interest groups, with classes such as crafts, chess, music and Welsh conversation, as well as the monthly lecture.

After speaking to the group at the town's Hi Tide Inn, Sarah said: "I was delighted to visit the Porthcawl U3A and speak to its members as part of my ongoing Engagement Roadshow. It was great to talk to the people involved in the group about what matters most to them, as the voices of older people drive my work and are at the heart of all that I do."

"Having something to do and something to look forward to, as well as opportunities to

socialise, be creative and learn are so important for older people's health and wellbeing and groups like the U3A are vital to support this."

The visit formed part of the Commissioner's Engagement Roadshow, which met over 4,000 older people around Wales in 2012, a figure set to be eclipsed this year.

During the visit, the Commissioner also spoke to members about her recently-launched Residential Care Review, into the quality of life and care of older people living in care homes across Wales.

As part of the review, she and her team will visit 100 residential care homes across Wales in the New Year, including a number in Bridgend county borough.

Sarah described how the Care Home Review will include a mixture of scheduled and unannounced visits to care homes, which will take place both during the day and at night.

This will allow the Commissioner to review whether people living in residential care have a good quality of life by looking at factors such as physical and psychological health, social relationships, the care home environment and spirituality.

The Commissioner wants to hear from as many older people as

possible, as well as their friends and families, about their experiences of Residential Care in Wales.

For more information about the review, call 08442 640670, or to complete the Commissioner's questionnaire online, visit www.olderpeoplewales.com.

Walk raises funds for carers' festive party

LOCAL young people who give up their time to care for family members, took part in a sponsored walk to raise money for a trip so that they can take a break from their responsibilities this Christmas.

The young people, who are supported by Action for Children's Bridgend Young Carers service walked from Brackla Family Centre to Merthyr Mawr and back in an eight mile trek to raise £300 for a Christmas treat.

Joanne Burgess, a support worker at Bridgend Young Carers, said: "These young people are invaluable to their families - they take care of their relatives and help around the house by cleaning, cooking and even administering medication. They

also have the usual responsibilities of a young person, like school work and occasional chores.

"They do so much to care for others; they often don't take the time to care for themselves. We are there to make sure they get the time they need to relax and enjoy their childhood."

"With the money from this walk, we'll be able to give these young carers a Christmas treat - maybe a party or even some presents!"

"With this, they can relax, have fun and enjoy themselves this Christmas."

Action for Children's

Bridgend Young Carers service provides regular sessions so that these young people can take time out from their everyday responsibilities to have fun and meet other young carers who are facing the same issues.

They can also access practical support or counselling if needed. If you know a young person between the ages of eight to 18 who regularly cares for a relative and would benefit from support, please contact Bridgend Young Carers on 01656 766067 or email joanne.burgess@actionforchildren.org.uk.

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bridgend-today.co.uk



LEFT: Staff at the Cynffig school give their Shwmae Sumae day coffee morning the 'thumbs up'.

Cynffig Comprehensive's Shwmae Sumae day wins council praise

RIGHT: Pupils show off their Shwmae Sumae day 'wal graffiti'.

PUPILS and staff from Cynffig Comprehensive have been celebrating their Welsh heritage by taking part in the first ever Shwmae Sumae day.

Everyone at the school put their language skills to the test, as a 'Curriculum Cymreig' slant was introduced to the school day, encouraging the pupils to use more Welsh.

Pupils participated in 'brecwast bingo', Welsh folk dancing, singing in Welsh, and a range of quizzes and games which encouraged using their native language. The school also created a 'wal graffiti' to display the activities that were taking place throughout the day.

Staff at the school also got in on the act by having a Shwmae Sumae Day coffee morning, where they weren't allowed to get their hands on a mug of the hot stuff or a slice of cake until they'd mastered asking for them in Welsh. A collection at the coffee morning raised £70 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Shwmae Sumae Day encourages people in Wales to start every conversation with the greeting 'shwmae' and try to use the Welsh language all year round, irrespective of their level of fluency.

Leanne Geddes, Head of Welsh at Cynffig



Comprehensive, said: "Here at Cynffig we are making every effort to become a more bilingual school. It's important that we celebrate our heritage, which is why we encourage the children to help keep Welsh a 'living language' by using it outside the classroom."

"I'd like to say a big thank you to all the staff who helped to make Shwmae Sumae Day at Cynffig a success, and say well done to all the pupils and staff for their 'ansbaradi-gaethus' efforts on Shwmae Sumae Day."

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "Da iawn to all

the staff and pupils at Cynffig Comprehensive for making Shwmae Sumae day such a big success. It's important that we celebrate our Welsh heritage, and everyone at Cynffig Comprehensive is certainly making a big effort to do just that."

The school has continued with the Welsh theme by holding a twmpath featuring performances from south Wales folk act 'Pluck and Squeeze', and the school's junior choir and vocal groups.

Mary completes half marathon for cancer charity

A steadfast Cancer Research Wales supporter from Porthcawl raised £285 by running the 13.1 mile Cardiff Half Marathon earlier this month.

Mary Beckett (29), pictured right, set herself a modest sponsorship goal of £100, and was overwhelmed by the generosity of donations from friends and family.

Speaking about the half marathon, Mary said: "I managed to beat my personal best time by seven minutes, and massively exceeded my fundraising target, so I'm feeling pretty proud!"

"This was my way of showing my support to everyone in my family who's been affected by cancer - but especially my husband and his family, who have been through a very tough time recently."

Mary has completed numerous fundraising races for cancer charities in the past, and this is the second time she has taken on the Cardiff Half Marathon.

Mary said: "Cancer has affected my family a lot, so it's really important to me to raise



money for a charity whose research into the treatment and diagnosis of cancer has benefited, and will continue to benefit, my family and so many others."

Mary's grandmother and two aunts all battled with cancer and have now sadly passed away.

Mary said: "Their ability to remain bright and cheerful despite their suffering has been an inspiration to me for many years."

Ogmore surgery

OGMORE MP Huw Irranca-Davies, will be holding a surgery in Blackmill between 1pm and 2pm on Friday, November 1 at Smithy's Café, The Square, Blackmill, CF35 6DR.

AM offers support to faith school parents

REGIONAL AM Suzy Davies has urged education chiefs in Bridgend to retain school buses for children attending faith schools in the borough.

At the moment, the Bridgend County

Borough Council (BCBC) is reviewing its provision of school buses. Officers have proposed withdrawing them from children attending faith schools who have a school nearer to them which they could attend instead.

Mrs Davies, a Welsh Conservative regional AM, has written to the

council's interim corporate director for children to register her objection to the proposals in relation to faith schools.

She said that under the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure, the council has a duty to transport children to a "relevant place" if it is outside the statutory distance from their homes

- two miles for junior pupils and three miles for secondary school pupils.

She went on: "The council can consider whether pupils could attend a nearer school but it has to be 'suitable'."

"If families choose to send their children to a faith school rather than their nearest school, they are doing so to provide their children with an education within a particular religious environment and which promotes a particular faith."

"A closer non-faith school would not be suitable for those families."

Mrs Davies said that families choosing to give their children a Welsh-medium education had those wishes respected, even though other, non-Welsh medium schools may be nearer.

She said that families making a decision based on faith should be treated the same as those who have made it on the basis of language.

"We must treat pupils fairly regardless of the need to save on the school transport bill," she added

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- Work place injuries including factory, construction, agricultural, falling from height and fatal accidents.
- Industrial illness including asbestos exposure, crystalline silica exposure, mesothelioma, lung cancer, respiratory disease and deafness.

Stephen will be at Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB on the date listed below.

Friday 08 Nov

10am - 5.30pm

No appointment is necessary, we can also arrange free telephone consultations and home visits. Contact:

Stephen Webber

T: 0800 0938240

E: stephen.webber@hughjames.com

W: www.hughjames.com/bridgend

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'Incredible' man helps charity make Headway

A man who has dedicated the past 20 years of his life to helping people rebuild their lives after brain injury, has been nominated for a national award.

Pete Mayle is one of only three people from across the UK to be named as a finalist for the Stephen McAleese Outstanding Contribution to Headway award.

Named after a Cumbrian man who defied a brain injury to dedicate his life to helping others, the award is part of an annual awards programme run by brain injury charity Headway.

In 1992, Pete's son Jeff, who was just 17 at the time, sustained a severe brain injury when he fell off his skateboard and hit his head on the edge of the curb. With help, Jeff managed to get himself home and was

able to tell Pete what had happened. Knowing the potential risks of concussion, Pete, who lives in Llantwit Major, decided to take his son to A&E at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend, to get checked out.

It was a decision that ultimately saved Jeff's life. A scan at the hospital revealed Jeff had fractured his skull. Worse was to follow as Jeff's brain began to haemorrhage, forcing doctors to perform an emergency procedure to drain the blood.

Jeff was immediately transferred by ambulance to Morriston Hospital in Swansea to be treated by specialist neurosurgeons, who performed a craniotomy to relieve the pressure on his brain and repair the damage.

Pete and his wife, Wendy, feared they would lose their son. Jeff remained in a coma for six weeks, but thankful-

ly, he gradually woke up. However, the injury to Jeff's brain had left the promising teenage a different person.

After six months in hospital, Jeff returned home to be cared for by his parents. He needed intense support and had to relearn everything – all the basic life skills most of us take for granted, such as walking, talking, washing, and feeding himself.

Damage to the left-hand side of his brain had left him with right-sided weakness, affecting his mobility and speech. He also had to learn how to write with his left hand.

The cognitive and emotional effects were also severe. Remarkably, Jeff resumed his A-level studies but found he had to start from scratch with basic arithmetic. Having to accept life would never be the same was another exceptionally tough challenge for Jeff to overcome.

Today, Jeff is doing well. Now 38, he remains significantly affected by his brain injury but lives independently, has a full-time job and is studying for a Masters degree in computing. His progress can be argued to be as much down to the support he's received from his parents as to his own determination and courage.

While Jeff was still in Rookwood Hospital, Pete and Wendy began attending Headway Cardiff, which at the time was a small, voluntarily-run monthly support group for families affected by brain injury. There, the couple were able to receive support from others affected, which gave them comfort and strength.

Inspired by the work of the group, Pete and Wendy, along with the chairman and secretary of the group, began pushing to develop the charity in order to help more people in the region affected by brain injury.

In 1995, Pete agreed to take on the role of treasurer of the charity, which at the time involved controlling the small costs associated with running a day centre for one afternoon a week and a monthly meeting for about 20 people.

Today, almost 20 years on, Headway Cardiff has developed into one of the largest Headway groups in the UK with more than 100 people accessing rehabilitation support at its centre in Cardiff each week.

Pete remains the treasurer, on a voluntary basis, but now, rather than looking after the small costs associated with buying tea and coffee once a month, he's responsible for the



ABOVE; Pete Mayle flanked by his son and wife.

finances of a charity with a turnover of more than £250,000 a year, a staff of 12, and the significant financial transactions associated with a busy day centre.

"Quite simply, I don't know what we'd do without Pete," said Julie Smith, manager of Headway Cardiff. "Wendy and Pete were the driving force behind the development of the charity in the early 90s and it's incredible to think he's still here today."

"He's an incredible man and so very deserving of public recognition."

A humble Pete said: "I didn't even know Julie had nominated me, so when I found out I was a finalist I was shocked. I thought, why me? What have I done? I love helping others and being involved with Headway Cardiff. Jeff is proof that there can be life after brain injury and I enjoy doing what I can to help."

Each year, the Headway Annual Awards celebrate the exceptional efforts of survivors of brain injury, and those caring for and supporting them.

In addition to the Stephen McAleese Outstanding Contribution to Headway Award, honours for the Achiever, Volunteer, Campaigner and Carer of the Year will be distributed by Headway vice-president and former Olympian James Cracknell at a glittering ceremony in The Dorchester Hotel, London, on December 6.

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ABOVE: Brian Carter presents Richard Craze (on right) with the trophy.

Photographers compete for memorial prize trophy



Geoff Baker's 'Soft landing'.

PYLE & Porthcawl Photographic Society held its annual Denis Lines Memorial Trophy Competition on Thursday, October 24, at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel in Porthcawl.

The competition was for prints and digital projected images and every member could enter up to four images each on any subject.

The winner was the photographer who attained the highest score for a print or digital image.

Brian Carter judged the competition, and not only awarded the marks, but also provided an excellent critique on each image.

The entries (21 prints and 41 digital images) were of a very high standard and there were six photographs that scored the maximum points of 20 out of 20.

The judge decided that first place should go to Richard Craze with his Print 'Swan Neck'.

The other photographs that also achieved maximum points were 'Soft Landing' by Geoff Baker, 'Rowing Boats' by Gail Evans, 'Hang On' by Trevor Owen and 'Reeds with Sky' and 'Tequila Sunset' by Richard Craze.

Congratulations to Richard on winning the competition, and a big thank you to everyone who participated, for making it such an interesting, entertaining and fun evening. GE



The winning image..

NCT's nearly new sale

THERE will be a nearly new sale at Bryntirion Comprehensive School on Saturday, November 9, from 11am to 12.30pm. Entrance / suggested donation, £1 adult.

Baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment (eg prams) and maternity wear will be on sale. Information from Julie 01656 662564, or nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk

Proceeds in aid of The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch, raising funds to train three breastfeeding counsellors and an antenatal teacher.

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PARALYMPIC CYCLIST OPENS THE NEW LODGE AT HERSONSBRIDGE SCHOOL

PHOTOGRAPHS by RANDELL JOHN

available for sale at
www.Randell.JohnPhotography.com
Telephone 01656 662324

PARALYMPIC cyclist, Simon Richardson, and Matthew Brace, the son of David Brace, have officially opened Hersonsbridge School's new facility Heron Lodge.

The eco-lodge will be a valuable meeting place for parents, and local groups, including Brownies and Guides.



Simon Richardson brought along his London 2012 Olympic torch.



Who wants to build what and where?

Mrs D Leccass - **inaum, 13aaawaun, Pencoe** - T1 and T2 (oak) crown reduction and crown lifting.
Mrs Lindsay Lewis - **26 Llangewydd Road, Bridgend** - Extension over existing single storey structure at side of property and porch to front elevation.

Mr K Morgan - **Nantymoel Bwls/CMTY Centre, Waun Fach Terrace, Nantymoel** - Installation of shutters on all exterior doors and windows.
Mr Paul Green - **50 Angelton Green, Pen-y-Fai** - New four bedroom dwelling.
Valleys to Coast Housing - **2-146 (evens) Waunscil Avenue, Brackla** - External wall insulation and render system and associated roof mounted photovoltaics.

Mr and Mrs K Roberts - **Llwydarth Farm, Maesteg** - Conversion of existing farm buildings to dwelling house.
Mr D and C Evans - **Barn at Ty Draw Farm, Ty Merchant Lane, Pencoe** - Relax standard condition of P/08/879/FUL to allow further five years to commence development.
Parish of Pyle and Kenfig - **St James and St Mary Magdalene, The Vicarage, Pyle Road, Pyle** - Refurbish and extend the parish hall with new small hall, internal alter-

ations, re-roofing and remove redundant chimney.
Hirwaun Power - **Hirwaun Industrial Estate, Rhondda Cynon Taf** - Obs application for proposed gas fired power plant.

Mrs Judith Burridge - **21 Nantffyllon Terrace, Maesteg** - Two storey kitchen/bedroom extension - amendment to approval P/13/162/FUL.

Mr R James - **11 Alma Terrace, Aberkenfig** - First floor extension and car parking area.
Mr S Walters - **40 Blackmill Road, Bryncethin** - Single storey rear extension.

Mr L Jones - **28 Clos y Cudyll Coch, Broadlands** - First floor front extension and two storey rear extension (amendment to P/12/707/FUL).

Mr D Richards - **12 Woodland Terrace, Pantyrwel** - Single storey side extension.

Mr M Lewis - **33 Ewenny Road, Bridgend** - Change of use from dwelling house to house in multiple occupation.

Mr J Cornthwaite - **10 Sanderling Way, Portcawl** - Proposed two storey extension.
Miss C Lane - **9 Caldys Close, Nottage** - Proposed two storey extension.

CHOIR'S ST ALBANS CONCERT BOOST FOR CHRISTIAN AID

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir crossed the border on Saturday, October 26 - to perform a concert for Christian Aid Uganda.

The choir travelled to St Albans with 45 chorists plus their musical director, Shelley Thomas-Brown, and accompanist Sandra Williams.

The venue was the cavernous sports/theatre hall in the grounds of the prestigious St Columba's College. It was the choir's fifth concert in eight years for the organisers of this extremely worthwhile cause.

The hall was packed out as many tickets had been sold during the first month of advertising.

The concert venue was very well organised and upwards of 400 people were seated by the 7.30pm start time.

As well as the time-honoured traditional Welsh favourites, the choir programme consisted of pieces such as 'Divine Brahma' from *The Pearl Fishers*, 'Shadowland' from the *Lion King* and 'Bohemian Rhapsody', the Queen anthem. 'Morte Criste', 'I

Believe' and a Beatles medley, also featured and were particularly well received. The final piece was the Welsh hymn 'Tydi a Roddaist'.

The great Amens proved so popular that the choir repeated the final verse as an encore.

A substantial amount of revenue was realised for Christian Aid Uganda, which the organisation will put to good use in providing education and medical facilities for thousands of Ugandan children.

It is estimated that the revenue raised from five concerts by the choir in recent years exceeds £20,000.

That sum is a triumph for the charitable work the choir undertakes on a voluntary basis, and is something that Cowbridge town can be justifiably proud of.

The choir's next concert performance is on Friday, November 22 at Holy Cross Church, where they will open the annual Christmas Tree Festival.

RAY PRITCHARD



Matthew Brace and Mari Major with the Olympic torch.

Paedophile Maesteg pensioner (70) now faces jail sentence

A PAEDOPHILE pensioner is facing a prison sentence at Cardiff Crown Court for sexually abusing a child more than 25 years ago.

The victim who, since the attacks, has suffered ill-health, including chronic fatigue syndrome, wrote a 10-page letter to Michael Batten, saying he had made her life a "living hell".

Batten (70), a retired railway employee of Neath Road, Maesteg, was found guilty by a majority verdict of 11-1 of three charges of indecent assault, and guilty by a similar majority of committing an act of gross indecency.

The jury retired for three-and-a-quarter hours and sentence was adjourned until November 22. Batten, a married man, was released on bail to "put his affairs in order".

Judge Neil Bidder QC warned Batten: "I make it absolutely clear that you are facing a prison sentence. Let there be no doubt about that."

He ordered Batten to register as a sex offender.

Prosecutor Claire Pickthall said the offences involved a girl under the age of 10 and were committed in the Maesteg area.

She said Batten groomed the child, gaining her confidence and trust before committing the offences.

CROWN COURT REPORTS by AJ SICLUNA

"She was groomed for Batten's own sexual gratification," she said.

He told her to tell no-one and that if people found out, the police would put her in jail. This made the child frightened and confused.

Matters came to a head last year when the victim wrote an "angry and explosive" 10-page letter to Batten outlining the effect his behaviour had had. It was delivered personally by courier.

He wrote back to her that he wished her well in the future. The victim's evidence was given via a video recording.

She said Batten had told her to "try and enjoy it".

She said he would make noises and he would smile. She was shocked, she said, when he indecently exposed himself and he would try to make her complicit, saying "we have our secret".

In court, she continued her evidence behind a screen in order not to see Batten.

She said she hated and detested him for ruining her childhood.

Batten, she continued, had terrorised her and she had had 25 years of strain and pressure. He

caused her permanent mental illness and her relationships were "in tatters".

The witness said she wrote the letter to confront him.

She also told the court that she had many cognitive therapy sessions and had flashbacks that Batten was in her home.

He was, she said, a "predatory presence".

The jury heard that she had had 150 hospital appointments by 2008, went to a healer and had spent £5,000 on treatments.

Detective Constable Melanie Deere, who arrested Batten, said he told her he was upset at the letter, didn't recognise what she was talking about and was shocked.

He said he was extremely upset and apologised for any harm she perceived he had done to her.

Batten, who had no previous convictions told the jury the allegations were lies.

Regarding the letter, he said "I could not believe what I was reading. I was absolutely astonished and my first reaction was to be horrified. There was nothing in that letter that I recognised."

He said he believed the victim was a very disturbed person. He replied to comply with her wish. He did not tell his wife about the letter so as not to worry her.

The allegations, he repeated, were fabricated and had had a devastating effect on him. He denied ever spending any length of time alone with the girl.

"I did nothing to her," he said.

A YEAR IN JAIL FOR REPEAT OFFENDER

A FATHER of five has been jailed for one year at Cardiff Crown Court for a series of offences, including going equipped for theft.

Judge Neil Bidder QC told 35-year-old Anthony Lewis: "These offences are characteristic of your offending, which you repeat year after year after year. I am afraid you have squandered the chance the Crown Court last gave you".

Lewis, of no fixed address, formerly of Craiglas, Bridgend, admitted two charges of theft, possessing drugs and going equipped for theft.

He was also in breach of a six-month suspended sentence imposed at Cardiff Crown Court in April for burglary.

Prosecutor David Lloyd said that on September 28, a security officer in a lorry park became suspicious of Lewis, who was driving a car, and informed the police.

The vehicle was stopped in Bridgend and inside were 11 jerrycans, a funnel,

hosepipes and a tool kit. Lewis said he lived in the vehicle.

On him, the police found valium and amphetamine and there was heroin in the boot. Also in the vehicle were items stolen from a car in Ewenny Road, Bridgend.

He was said to have previous convictions for stealing from vehicles, burglary and drugs offences.

The burglary for which he received a suspended sentence, had been for breaking into an office complex at Parc Prison, Bridgend where he stole a computer.

His counsel, Alex Greenwood, said: "He had been making reasonable progress under the suspended sentence. He is a former heroin addict and at the time of the offences did not have accommodation."

LOCAL PACT meetings

SARN / BRYN-COCH PACT,

November 4 at Sarn Life Centre at 7pm.

BRYNCEITHIN PACT, November 6 at Nazareth Chapel at 6pm.

BLACKMILL PACT, November 11 at Blackmill Community Centre at 6pm.

ABERKENFIG / Pen-Y-Fai PACT, November 11 at Smyrna Chapel, Pen-Y-fai at 7pm.

LLANGYNWYD PACT, November 13 at Llangynwyd Village Hall at 6pm.

YNNYSAWDRE

COITY PACT, Gilead Chapel, Heol Spencer on November 14 at 7pm.

BRYNTRIRION, LALESTON & MERTHYR MAWR PACT, Laleston Gardening Club, Laleston, on November 14 at 7pm.

MORFA WILDMILL PACT, The Community Life Centre, The Precinct, Wildmill on November 14 at 6.30pm.

CEFN GLAS, LLANGWYDD & BRYNHIFYRD PACT,

PACT, November 13 at Tondur Community Centre at 6pm.

CORNELLY PACT, November 14 at Cornelly Primary, Greenfield Terrace at 6.30pm.

PLYLE / CEFN CRIBWR PACT, November 14 at Pyle Life Centre at 6.30pm.

CAERAU PACT, November 25 at Caerau Development Trust at 6pm.

MAESTEG EAST / MAESTEG WEST PACT, November 25 at Cwm Calon Day Centre at 6pm.

Westward Community Centre, on November 25 at 5.30pm.

LITCHARD & PENDRE PACT, Litchard Mission (off Litchard Terrace) on November 25 at 6.30pm.

OLDCASTLE PACT, The Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on November 27 at 6.30pm.

BRACKLA PACT, Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend on November 28 at 6.30pm.

FELINDRE, HENDRE, PENPRYSG (PENCOED) PACT, RAOB Club, Pencood on December 5 at 7pm.

MORFA TOWN PACT, Penybont Primary School, Minerva Street on December 9 at 6.30pm.

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CAT CENTRE SUPPORTERS' SPOOKY FUNDRAISER IS A GREAT SUCCESS!

Photos by **SUE DOBBS**
and **MANDY THOMAS**

A FUN-FILLED ghoulish event was held last weekend and raised over £350 for the Cats Protection Bridgend Adoption Centre.

The event was organised by the 'Friends of' group for the centre, which holds many fundraising events throughout the year.

The spooky-themed event proved popular with the children, with fantastic colouring and costume competition entries.

Other attractions were the home-made cakes, refreshments, super raffle, lucky dip, soft toy tombola, and much more.

Organiser Sue Emlyn-Jones was delighted with the event: "We have raised just over £365, which will go to the Bridgend Adoption Centre to help enhance the lives of the cats and kittens who are looking for new homes."

"I would like to thank all the local businesses who donated such wonderful prizes and goodies, the 'Friends of' volunteers and staff at the centre for their hard work, and to everyone who supported us today."

"If you are thinking of a furry addition to your home, Bridgend Adoption Centre is the place to visit."

The centre has around 200 cats and kittens looking for homes, and is open daily from 11am-3.30pm, with late opening on Wednesday until 6.30pm.



Fundraising for pancreatic cancer fund

A courageous 45-YEAR-old Llantwit Major mum who has pancreatic cancer is continuing to raise funds for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund.

"Since my diagnosis I have been fundraising for the PCRF. PC is the deadliest cancer and most people die within six months of diagnosis. Sadly, only three per cent survive three years, compared to 89 per cent of breast cancer patients," said Jane Williams.

"Early detection is the key. Research is looking for biomarkers in the blood which could signify disease at an early stage so it can be treated. Surgery is radical and extreme, taking on average nine hours to complete but it is the only chance at extending life."

"I underwent the surgery last December but, sadly, it was unsuccessful. Further chemotherapy also failed."

"My time has been spent with precious family and friends and also fundraising. We have had coffee and cake mornings, a delightful ladies' night with food and entertainment and various other small ventures."

The next event 'A Musical Evening at Llantwit Major Rugby Club' is on Friday November 29, at 7.30pm.

Local musicians will perform a variety of numbers ranging from up-to-date pop, musical stage items, acoustic and band.

Door entrance tickets are on sale from Chris Williams Optometrists at £5 each. Raffle tickets are also available at £1 a ticket.



ABOVE: Volunteers prepared a tempting table of home-made cakes for the party.



RIGHT: Little Layla was having a great time!

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Local woman's walk round Wales for national charity



Stuart and Alison Elson on Porthcawl sea front ready to start the day's walking.

A PENCOED woman (left) has been at the forefront of a massive charity walk around Wales, and after almost nine weeks, she will finish in Cardiff Bay on Saturday (November 2).

Alison Elson's stepson Dane Elson was killed in Afghanistan in July 2009, and since then she has worked tirelessly to raise money for Service charities.

The GEM caught up with her in Porthcawl yesterday (October 30) as around 200 walkers set out on the Porthcawl to Southerndown leg of the walk.

She was joined by her husband Stuart, who has joined her on a number of days, work permitting. Alison, however, has passed the 800-mile mark and, on Saturday she will tot up a grand total of 870 miles.

She said: "I've coped pretty well, and haven't had trouble with blisters. We get a rest day every Tuesday, and I do look forward to that - but I am raring to go on a Wednesday!"

WALK ON WALES, is a charity walk that is raising funds for the

REPORT by GEM STAFF

Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal and Combat Stress. The target is £1,000,000.

The walk is a relay around the entire 870-mile coastline of Wales, carrying a silver baton, with the names of the 50 Welsh Guardsmen, killed in action since World War Two engraved on it.

Each day is dedicated to one of the fallen Welsh Guards and a drum head service is conducted each day before the walkers start off remembering that particular hero.

Three other walkers - the 870 milers - will have walked the entire route, supported by 11 different teams, made up primarily of ex-Welsh Guards.

The other three 870 milers are former Welsh Guards, Jan Koops, Rod Morgan, Chris Hopkins - all three were on the Sir Galahad in the Falklands.

This week the leg is being led by Samantha Bossi, wife of Dino Bossi, commanding officer of the Welsh Guards.

Today (Thursday) the

walk continues from Dunraven Bay to Aberthaw, passing through Llantwit Major.

On November 1, the walk continues, through Barry Island, where Marco's Cafe of Gavin and Stacey fame has kindly offered to provide refreshments for the walkers, before ending the day in Swanbridge.

Saturday sees the walk leave Swanbridge, where it will meet the band of the Welsh Guards at Cardiff Barrage, and the band will lead the walkers to the Senedd in Cardiff Bay.

The walk will come to

an end after over 63 days of walking.

A spokesman said: "More than 2,000 people have walked one leg or another of the walk."

"The banter among old Welsh Guards provides so many laughs, but with so many poignant moments on the route, for so many, and so many memories of comrades lost, tears have sometimes fallen like rain."

Jan Koops and the man behind the walk Dai Graham attended a reception at 10 Downing Street with the Prime Minister, David Cameron on Tuesday evening, October 29.



The responsibility of carrying the silver scroll on this leg fell to Brigadier Philip Napier, the Commander of the Army in Wales.

Beth's anger as her cancer drug appeal is turned down

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Beth said: "It was like a pantomime in that boardroom today, eight of them, and me with stage 4 breast cancer fighting for my life...enough is now enough."

In the letter she appealed for help from Mr Jones, and The GEM understands that the First Minister has told her that he will write to ABMU once again, asking for reasons for the decision, and has offered to speak to her consultant.

He emphasised that, as First Minister, he could not interfere in the process, but that these were actions he could take as an AM.

An ABMU spokeswoman commented: "We follow the All

Wales Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) policy, and have an IPFR panel which meets fortnightly to consider each case on its own merit, in line with the policy."

"This panel is chaired by a doctor, and includes other clinicians including consultants, a pharmacist and a GP."

"Over the past year the panel has considered 117 drug cases, and approved 74 of them. Unfortunately, not every case can be approved, and the reasons for this can be varied."

"The decision of the panel can be appealed using the appeals process. Appeals are heard in line with the All Wales IPFR policy as soon as all the necessary information has been received."

Quiz boosts Dogs Trust

A CHARITY quiz in aid of the Dogs Trust rehoming centre in Bridgend was held at the Hare and Hounds in Aberthaw on Tuesday, October 22, and it proved to be a great success.

Pub landlords Phil and Nick Francis kindly agreed to allocate their premises free of charge and members of staff helped provide a buffet on the night, for a very worthy cause. The quiz

was organised by brother and sister Andrew and Amy Wride.

Volunteers Elaine Wride and Dee Hayes organised the raffle and would like to thank everyone for their generous donations. The total amount raised was £300 which will be greatly appreciated by the Dogs Trust.

A big thank you to everyone who came to support us and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

AW

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
bridgend-today.co.uk

Prince's Trust youth grants

A LEADING youth charity is offering grants of up to £500 to unemployed young people in Wales who need financial help to get into education, work or training.

The Prince's Trust Development Awards give people aged between 14 and 25 cash grants to help with specific costs relating to getting back to work or on a training course.

To be eligible, the young people must be aged 16 to 25 and not in work or training, or working less than 16 hours a week. Any 14 to 16 year olds who are at risk of achieving fewer

than five GCSEs can also apply.

The grants can be used to help fund training fees, equipment, tools and other expenses needed for work or training. The amounts awarded will range from £50-£500 depending on circumstances, with the average award being around £180.

The director of Prince's Trust Cymru, Lesley Kirkpatrick, said: "Prince's Trust Development Awards are vital in helping vulnerable young people to turn their lives around."

Further information about the Development Awards can be obtained by calling 029 20431500.

Help needed for Daffodil Appeal

MARIE CURIE Cancer Care is seeking volunteers to help organise the charity's biggest annual fundraising campaign, the Great Daffodil Appeal.

The appeal encourages everyone to give a donation and wear the charity's iconic daffodil pin during February and March.

All the money raised will help the charity provide more free care to people with terminal illnesses at The Marie Curie hospice in

Penarth. With planning for the 2014 campaign already under way, the local Marie Curie fundraising team needs volunteers to help in a variety of roles - from organising local collections to delivering boxes of daffodils to shops in your area, by volunteering some of your time you'll be helping local people with a terminal illness to get the care they need.

Contact Georgina Burke on 029 2042 6068, or visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil for more information.

Rhymney Valley

REGARDING the letter about the Senghenydd disaster in The GEM, I was born and bred in Senghenydd and it is in the Rhymney Valley - not the Rhondda Valley.

R Price, St Hilary.

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Bag snatcher was 'desperate to be sent back to jail'

TWO passers-by who chased and captured a man who made off after he grabbed a bag containing pub takings of £3,800, have been publicly thanked by a judge at Cardiff Crown Court.

Craig Thomas (20) of no fixed address, had admitted the

charge of theft before Bridgend magistrates and had been committed to the crown court for sentence.

He was sentenced to a young offender institution for 16 months and was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

Prosecutor Gareth James said that on

September 23, public licensee Andrew Fear was walking along Dunraven Place, Bridgend, at about 10.10am about to pay in takings of £3,800.

"He was on the steps of the bank when the bag containing the cash was

ripped from his grasp by Thomas," said Mr James.

The incident was captured on closed circuit TV.

Thomas ran off as Mr Fear shouted "Stop him".

Mr James told the court: "A passer-by

who had been shopping, Michael Glyn Thomas, saw the defendant running towards him and got in his way and restrained him.

"Another man, who has not been identified, became involved and took the

defendant to the ground. A police van was nearby and he was arrested very shortly."

All the money, the court heard, was recovered.

Thomas later told the police he had been homeless for

three weeks and was desperate to return to prison. Various agencies, he said, had not provided him with accommodation.

He was said to have previous convictions for causing actual bodily harm, possessing an offensive weapon,

attempted robbery, battery, and aggravated burglary.

His counsel, Meirion Davies, said that since being arrested the defendant had been recalled to custody.

Judge Tom Crowther QC, publicly thanked the two men,

He told the defendant: "I took the view that you targeted Mr Fear, whom you knew."

CARDIFF CROWN COURT REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

RNLI lifeboat says farewell to a valued crewmen

THE volunteer crew of Barry Dock RNLI lifeboat station enjoyed a well-earned meal at the Six Bells in Penmark this Saturday.

Crew members save up throughout the year for the annual dinner, taking the opportunity to thank their wives and families who support them in their lifesaving work.

This year, the crew and their wives were joined by colleagues from flank station Penarth, and medal winner Paul Eastment from Porthcawl, who attended a flood rescue last Christmas with Barry crew member Marc Gibbons and saved a woman's life.

She had been swept away by floods in her Cornish home town before being rescued in dramatic circumstances by Paul and his colleagues.

The dinner also gave an opportunity for the crew to say farewell to former crew member Duncan Cooper who is moving away from the Barry area to pursue work opportunities in Cirencester. He was thanked for more than eight years of service and the active role he took at the station.

He was presented with a certificate of thanks.

The crew also said a fond farewell to crew member Karl Spierling who has moved to Scotland to pursue new opportunities.

Karl joined the crew in 1990 and has attended 207 emergencies, saving 32 lives.

He was presented with a certificate of thanks and the crew wished him well in his new endeavours.

The volunteer crew are on call 24/7 to respond to a wide variety of emergency situations at sea.

The RNLI has had its busiest summer for 24 years, and the crew have faced many challenges.

Crew members had volunteered to cover the lifeboat during the event to allow other crew members to take the night off and enjoy it. Although the pagers did not go off on Saturday, the crew were called out on Monday night (October 21). However, they were stood down before launching.

Meanwhile, the preventative work of the education team continued with a visit from High Street Primary School pupils to the station on Tuesday, October 22. Youth groups who would like to visit the station should call 01446 735678 to book.

ABI PHILLIPS

Wales4 Africa's new local leader

A LOCAL optometrist announced last week as the new Chairperson for Vale4Africa will lead the local group which links with a Ugandan village and community project in eastern Uganda.

Ted Arbuthnot, who has taken on the role, was welcomed by trustees and pledged to help take this Wales 4Africa link forward.

With an eye care project supported by Cardiff University School of Optometry, a library link, a water project supported by Cowbridge Rotary Club and partnerships with both Atlantic College and Cardiff and Vale College and the SAFE Foundation, Vale4Africa is making its mark in Africa and in the Vale.

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Out and About with The GEM

History lecture

THE Cowbridge History Society's next lecture will be on Friday, November 1 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall, Cowbridge.

Dr Louise Miskell of Swansea University will talk on 'Creating Copperopolis: the people and places behind the Swansea copper industry.' All are welcome.

Cottrell Park antiques fair

COTTRELL PARK Golf Resort will host an antique and collectors' fair on Saturday and Sunday, November 2-3 in the warmth of Tylor's Cabin and the conservatory.

There will be a diverse range of antiques and collectables on display, and in time for that special Christmas gift or for your own collection, there will be jewellery, porcelain, pottery, silverware and the odd quirky item.

Refreshments will be available to purchase from the clubhouse. Entrance to the fair, £1.50; free car parking.

Healing workshop

A HEALING workshop for those affected by cancer will be held on November 3 in Llantwit Major with Fran Graham (retired Macmillan nurse).

There will be a heal-

ing service from 4pm - 5pm and everyone is very welcome at Our Lady & St Illtyd Catholic Church, Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major CF61 1TQ.

Contact Vivien Snow on 01446 793420 or enquiries@westvale-catholics.co.uk.

Valeways walks

ON Sunday, November 3 at 2.30pm, meet for 'Witches Pools' walk from Llyswnorsey church.

On Tuesday, November 5 at 2pm Coffee Shop Strollers from the visitor centre at Cosmeston Hub.

On Wednesday, November 6, there is a walk from Cosmeston Hub for the Coffee Shop Strollers to the Bridge café, Cold Knap starting at 10.30am and a Fields and Lanes walk at 10.30am from the beach at Gileston.

On Thursday, November 7 at 10.30am, from Rhosoe Hub railway station car park for the Coffee Shop Strollers.

Christmas sparkle

AT Cowbridge and District Flower Arrangers Club's meeting at 7.30pm on November 6 in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall, Elaine Morgan will give a demonstration entitled 'Christmas Sparkle'. 'Blogs' talk THE next meeting of the Bridgend Writers' Circle will be on November 8 at the

Bryntirion and Laleston Community Hall, when Phil Carradice will give a talk on 'Blogs' at 7.15pm.

Autumn fayre for hospice THE Barry fundraising group is holding an autumn fayre at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry on Saturday November 9 at 11am to 1pm.

D&S picture frames and mirrors at knock-down prices, Christmas and birthday cards, cakes, bric-a-brac, jewellery, various craft stalls and a table of Marie Curie Cancer Care items.

There will be refreshments available and admission is free.

All proceeds will help towards the upkeep of the hospice at Penarth which is a 30-bedded unit offering high quality care for the terminally ill and respite care.

To join the Barry fundraising volunteers, call Mrs Susan Borges on 01446 747928, or mobile 07866078665.

Barnardo's fayre

BRIDGEND Barnardo's Helper Group is holding a Christmas fayre on Tuesday, November 12 at Heronstone Hotel, Ewenny Road, Bridgend at 10.30am. Stalls include raffles, tombola, gifts, jewellery and cakes. Tickets (£4) will be available at the door.

Everyone's Future

'Everyone's Future, a Lottery-funded partnership between Vibe Experience and Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale, is looking for more age quality workers.

The next meeting will be held on November 19 at Cardiff Story Museum, The Old Library, Trinity Street, Cardiff. Contact Louise David, Age Quality Worker (Young People) via email louise@vibe-experience.com/01446 700622 or Alice Matthews, Age Equality Worker (Older People) alicemathews@age-concern-cardiff.org.uk/02920 683694 for details.

Watch Wales on big screen

VELINDRE Fundraising presents a special rugby evening for Wales v Tonga match.

Watch on a big screen; curry and rice after the game; Q&A with former Wales captain, Maesteg, Bridgend, Cardiff, Baa-Baas and British Lions star, Mike Hall on Friday, November 22 at Pencoed Social Club.

Doors open 7pm, kick-off 7.30pm; tickets £10 in advance, available from Pencoed Social Club or call Jake Morris on 07824 630306.

Festive plans PENCOED Contact Group's Christmas dinner will be held on December 4 and the Christmas party on December 18.

The group meets at The Social Club, Hendre Road, Pencoed, every Wednesday from 11.45am.

It welcomes new members wishing to join other elderly, housebound and disabled. Call 01656 860353 or 862594.

Railway book opens up a window on south Wales' industrial past

Book review by
MIKE WILCOCK

STEAM in South Wales by Derek Huntriss, with photographs by Alan Jarvis, runs to almost 100 pages and is full of details with every image.

It details the type of locomotive, year built, where the train was operating and information about the lines and locations, so it all makes for a very interesting read.

The story starts at Fishguard Harbour in 1962 where we see 0-6-0 PT departing with a goods train for Clarbiston Road.

The reader is then taken through Swansea to Sugar Loaf Summit with more southbound freight passing the 18 lever frame signalbox, which was situated just north of the Sugar Loaf Tunnel.

Next, another excellent colour image depicts the northbound ammonia tanks at Torpantau station, with two GWR tank engines resting in the station before moving off to their final destination at Billingham.

Then it is on to Pontsticill with an empty tank train moving off to Dowlais, followed by another rare image showing Fleur-De-Lis station, where our photographer had gone on his BSA motor bike to capture this train on a summer evening in June 1962.

Memories of steam-hauled trains in the valleys and central Wales come flooding back throughout this book.

Semaphore signals, miles of long lifted track, old stations and signal boxes are a joy to see again through the lens of colour photographer Alan Jarvis.

I also found the background scenes on all the pages brought back memories of the 60s, the fashions, bridges long since demolished, cars and vans on quiet roads, views now obliterated by much bigger trees and forests.

In 1960, we see St Fagans station, which may be re-introduced within a few years, not only to service the museum but as a good



link for commuters into Cardiff. What a pity so many local links have been taken away.

Many pages feature the large engine shed at Cardiff Canton. Opened in 1882, Canton was one of the largest depots in Wales, with 120 or more locos stabled there.

Some superb line-ups of steam power show Kings, Castles and Halls waiting their next turn of duty.

If only I had taken more interest in railways 50 years ago, and had such a camera of the quality of our author, as well as an eye

for such good composition, I would be writing this book rather than reviewing it!

This will be the ideal Christmas present for anyone, not just interested in railways, but in the industrial scene here in south Wales in the 1960s.

I now intend to go out and find the overgrown or redeveloped scenes featured in the excellent volume of *Steam in South Wales*.

The book is published by Ian Allan and is available in bookshops throughout the area, priced at £20.

Liz makes hairdressing's Welsh 'Hall of Fame'

FOLLOWING a long and distinguished career in hairdressing, the former British champion and international hairstylist, Liz Shipton, became the first inductee in to the Welsh Hairdressing's Hall of Fame.

The inaugural event was organised by the Welsh Area of the National Hairdressers Federation at the Masonic Hall, Churchill Way, Cardiff.

Speaking on accepting this award, which was voted by her peers, Liz said: "This is wonderful as I won my first hair-

RIGHT: Liz Shipton. dressing competition in Cardiff and to be honoured by such amazing people is incredible."

Liz was initially trained at the Peter Hubbard Salon in Porthcawl and before opening her own salons, built up a strong clientele at the Uwe Jantzen salon in Bridgend.

She moved to Bristol and embarked on a career in international hairdressing competitions and later working on fashion photo shoots and presenting her skills at seminars and shows throughout the UK.

In 2007, she became the Wales and West winner at the prestigious British Hairdressing Awards.



ner at the prestigious British Hairdressing Awards.

In 2010, she retired from salon work and moved back to Wales to live in Porthcawl.

Organised fireworks display in Penmark

THE Six Bells, Penmark holds a charity event every year - a gigantic bonfire is lit at 7pm and a spectacular firework display begins at 8pm.

With outdoor music, hot dogs and burgers cooking on the barbecue it's always a great night.

Also for fun, a best

dressed guy competition is held - so bring along your guy!

It's just £2 per person, with all profits going to charity.

This year, The Six Bells, Penmark chosen charity is 'The Cerys Potter Foundation', set up to enable underprivileged children from all walks of life to enjoy special activities.

See www.ceryspotterfoundation.org for information.

To keep up to date with the latest events, visit www.sixbellspenmark.co.uk.

COTTRELL PARK GOLF RESORT on the A48 at ST NICHOLAS hosts an **ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR** in the warmth of 'TYLERS CABIN' and the CONSERVATORY on **Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd November** Refreshments available to purchase from the clubhouse. **OPEN 10 am to 4 pm (both days)** Entrance £1; Children FREE

Help for the lonely

THE Contact the Elderly charity, which is dedicated to tackling loneliness and isolation among older people, is appealing for volunteers in the Vale to help with the running of local tea parties for the elderly.

They are collected from their home by a volunteer driver, and taken to a volunteer host's home, where they join a small group for tea, chat and companionship.

The charity is hoping to set up a new group in the area, but is struggling to recruit volunteer drivers and hosts.

For full details, contact Marion Lowther, south Wales development officer on 01792 862 702, or email marion.lowther@contact-the-elderly.org.uk.

The Healing Hour

Every Monday at Barry Island Community Centre, 10.30am-12.30pm
£5 PER PERSON PER TREATMENT
Tel: 01446 621909



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Two-minute silence on Armistice Day

THE Vale Council is again supporting the Royal British Legion and its nationwide observance of a two-minute silence to commemorate Armistice Day by holding a wreath laying ceremony on Monday, November 11.

A short service will take place on the Civic Office forecourt, Barry,

in front of the Merchant Seamen Memorial.

The Mayor, together with political leaders and representatives of local organisations will lay wreaths.

The start and end of the silence will be marked by the playing of the Last Post and Reveille.

Members of the public are invited and welcome to attend this ceremony. Please assemble at the Civic Office forecourt at 10.45am.

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www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk
Thanking everyone for their continued support

News from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg



ABOVE: A massed start for the fun run.



LEFT: Welsh cakes galore!

ON Friday, October 11, a day filled with a variety of activities was organised by the sixth form at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg to launch a new charity support group for 'LATCH', and to raise awareness of the work of our three committees, 'Eco', 'Charity' and 'Welshness'.

The day was a sweeping success, with every pupil dressed in fancy dress, eco-themed clothing or Welsh costumes to tie in with the committees, and donating £1 for the privilege.

We would like to thank both Tesco and Waitrose in Barry for their kind donations of Welsh cakes which

were sold by members of the Welshness committee.

There was also face painting available throughout the day. Highlights were a litter-picking relay and a fun-run organised by the Eco and Charities committees for years 7-10.

Huge congratulations to year-12 and thanks go to them for their commitment and enthusiasm in holding such a worthwhile day.

An amazing total of £3,359 was raised and we would like to thank all who contributed.

We look forward to organising more activities in the future!

KH



The LATCH support group.

Are you suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)?

If you are experiencing upsetting thoughts, nightmares, flashbacks or are feeling unable to relax after a traumatic event, you could be suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

We need volunteers to take part in a study of a new online treatment for PTSD based on Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (TFCBT) and you could help us.

The study will involve following an eight-week programme online with regular guidance from an experienced therapist. We will assess your symptoms before and after treatment

If you are interested in taking part or would like more information about the study please contact

Dr Catrin Lewis
on 029 20682013 or catrin@healthcare-leamington.com

Thank you

IN BRIEF Alternative

to Hallowe'en

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a Hallelujah Party for accompanied children of all ages today, October 31, from 5pm to 6.30pm.

The party will take place on the gallery inside the church - food, games and activities will be provided and children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite character.

Admission is free though donations would be appreciated. All are welcome - for more information visit www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk.

Hallowe'en family night

ST ATHAN Community Association is holding a Hallowe'en-themed family night on November 1, 5pm-10pm, free entry. Prizes for all children in fancy dress.

PACT surgeries
THERE will be a PACT surgery at Nolton Church Hall on November 28, from 2pm-3pm; December 6, 10am-11am; and on December 13, 6.30pm-7.30pm.

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BARRY ISLAND FIREWORK SPECTACULAR

TUESDAY, 5th NOVEMBER

40 YEARS OF FIREWORKS...

ONCE again and with the invaluable collaboration of the Barry Town and Vale Councils, the Rotary Club of Barry is delighted to bring you an exceptional evening of fun and fireworks, as we stage our 40th Fireworks Fiesta on November 5.

We will be holding it whatever the weather brings, so please ignore any rumours to the contrary.

Pendragon Fireworks, based here in Wales, promise that this year's display will be better than ever.

Come along and enjoy yourselves on what promises to be a wonderful evening of fun, fireworks and music. The fireworks will start at 7.45pm prompt, but to avoid

the last-minute rush, we suggest arriving from 6pm.

You will be able to enjoy the delights of the Island traders and the funfair before and after the main event. Parking is available in the main car parks for only £2 a vehicle. Limited disabled parking on Nells Point car park is also available.

We implore everyone attending to donate at least £1 into the collecting buckets, as the future funding of this event could be in doubt.

If everyone gave at least £1, we could ensure the continuation of the event, and help deserving causes so much more.

Over the years, this has been a very popular event and traffic delays are to be expected, so where possible please car share and consider the following alternative forms of transport:

tive forms of transport:

- Barry Docks Station/Barry Station; park at either site and take the regular Arriva train service to Barry Island. For times visit www.arrivatrain-swailes.co.uk or ring 08457 48 49 50.

- Hood Road Train Service; The Barry Tourist Railway will be operating a train service from the Hood Road Station to Barry Island Station from 6pm to 9pm. Parking is free at Hood Road and a small charge applies for the return train journey.

- The Rotary Club of Barry apologises to the residents of Barry Island for the inconvenience caused during the road closure period (5.30pm-10pm).

PETER BATTLE,
President, Rotary Club of Barry

Naunton Jones Le Masurier

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Would like to wish the
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Countdown begins...

WITH bonfire night fast approaching, Barry Rotary Club, with support from the Vale Council, is pulling together final plans for this year's Fireworks Fiesta at Barry Island.

It will take place on Tuesday, November 5, with the display set to begin at 7.45pm. Entry is free, but help support the Barry Rotary Club by donating to the bucket collections on the night.

With a brand new car park open at Nell's Point, in addition to the existing Harbour car park, there'll be more parking available for visitors than ever before.

Nell's Point has 800 spaces, including disabled parking bays for Blue Badge holders. Parking is £2 per car, which goes directly to the Barry Rotary Club.

Visitors are encouraged to make use of these car parking facilities as Civil Parking Enforcement Officers will be in operation on the night and issuing fines to those parked illegally.

For those not travelling by car, there are a number of public transport options available, including the local park and ride facility, bus and rail services, and also the Barry Tourist Railway's steam train service.

With organisers expecting a high turnout for this popular fireworks extravaganza, a number of roads around Barry Island will be temporarily closed to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

The following road closures will be in place on the night:

- Paget Road and Friars Road (from in front of the Dolphin pub) will be closed from 5.30pm to 9.30pm.
- Station Approach

Road (the section in front of Barry Island Railway Station only) will be closed from 6.30pm to 9.30pm.

- Barry Island residents are advised to use Plymouth Road for access during these times.

This is a popular event, so please be aware there may be delays when leaving Barry Island.

If you're planning a trip to Barry Island to watch the fireworks on November 5, here are our top tips for travelling to the event:

- Travelling by car: Nell's Point car park, access via Plymouth Rd after 6.30pm, Harbour car park.

- Travelling by rail: Barry Island train station, exit onto Station Approach Road.

- Catch the steam train from Barry Waterfront to Barry Island, cost applies and booking is essential. Visit www.barrytourist-railway.co.uk for more details.

- Park and Ride: Park and ride at the Dock Office car park, Barry Waterfront (150 spaces) and travel to Barry Island on the designated train.

Traveline Cymru provide up to date travel information which includes bus, coach and rail times. Tel: 0871 200 22 33, visit www.traveline-cymru.info or text 84268.

Follow @visitthevale and @VOGCouncil for event information.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

BARRY ISLAND - FIREWORKS

TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of the Schedules hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said schedules will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulations shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof listed in schedule 1 shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles with the exception of Emergency Services and Coastguard vehicles between the hours specified in column 3 of schedule 1.

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof listed in schedule 2 shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles with the exception of Permit holding Residents' and Public & Emergency Service Vehicles between the hours specified in column 3 of schedule 2. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00.

Schedule 1

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Tuesday 5th November 2013	Paget Road between Harbour Road and its cul de sac end near the life guard station including the un-named section of road to the side of No19 Paget Road (excluding the lane). Station Approach Road throughout the length, including its gyratory of the roundabout at Whites Corner. Breaksea Drive from its western junction with Adar-y-Mor to its junction with Station Approach Road. Friars Road , between its junction with Station Approach Road and Paget Road	5.30pm-10pm

Schedule 2

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Tuesday 5th November 2013	Westward Rise , Porth-Y-Castell, Bron A Welon, Tan-Y-Fron, Min-Y-Mo'r, Pen-Y-Bryn, Marine Drive, Trem-Y-Don, Swn-Y-Mor, Cliff Wood View and Bull Cliff Walk.	5.00pm-9.00pm

Local signed diversions shall be in place. Access for Pedestrians shall be maintained.

Dated this 31st day of October 2013

M. E. Punter, Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA



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5th NOVEMBER

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Paul Potts biopic strikes all the wrong notes!

CONSIDERING how big a star of stage and TV screen James Corden has become, his venture into film hasn't been as glorious.

A small cameo in Joe Meek biopic *Telstar* and *The History Boys* aside, Corden has found himself sidelining in the likes of *The Three Musketeers*, *Gulliver's Travels*, while his first headlining role, in *Lesbian Vampire Killers*, is hardly worth wasting ink on.

His latest role, however, gives him his best chance yet of establishing himself on the big screen in *One Chance*. Corden plays Paul Potts, a shop assistant whose operatic singing voice seems more of a curse than a gift.

However, with the support of his family and friends, he plucks up the courage to audition for Britain's *Got Talent*, hoping for a big break; little does he know...

Hollywood loves an underdog's story; usually the provision of sports films, it can quite easily apply to individuals in any walk of life, and the story of Paul Potts is much

like Susan Boyle (though, heaven forbid, we get Su-Bo: The Movie any time soon).

Much like last week's review, *Captain Phillips*, this is another true-life tale that, unless you've been hiding under a rock, you will be more than aware of how it all ends.

However, unlike that film, *One Chance* is a film that is devoid of flair, style, personality and substance; instead, it's a humdrum tale of how a man with a talent auditioned for a reality TV show and managed to win it.

The fault of this doesn't lie in the hands of James Corden, whose lead performance gives Paul Potts more charm and charisma than the real man. While he still plays a variant of himself (an accusation that will continually be levelled at the actor until he breaks free from the public perception of him), Corden's turn elevates this film from 'true life story of the week' to something only slightly more bearable.

The other redeeming feature is Alexandra Roach as Potts' girlfriend/wife; sharing a pleasing chemistry with Corden and, again, charming and likeable enough in her own right. The pair shine brightest amidst the

drudgery, with the likes of Mackenzie Crook, Julie Walters and Colm Meaney slumming it in turns that rely more on their charm than the characters they portray.

The worst element of the film is the fact that Potts' story is far more than simply a mobile phone salesman turned opera singer, yet here it is handled so haphazardly that you never really engage in the material.

Writer Justin Zackham lays on the subtext with a decorator's brush, hammering home that Potts was constantly butting heads with his father over his desire to be an opera singer, but skims over what would be the more interesting elements of his story (his depression following illness is one element dealt with almost as an afterthought).

Rather than getting inside the head of a man whose ambition seemed to be just out of reach, we get far-fetched 'dramatic' scenes of characters resolving issues that have been hammered home in case we've missed what Zackham is trying to highlight.

David Frankel's CV has the odd impressive note, such as *The Devil Wears Prada*, but here he seems on cruise control, the

direction mundane and average and feeling limited in scope. Both the direction and script play more like a TV movie than a big-screen effort, the performances (aside from Corden and Roach) are of a similar ilk, and perhaps this is where Paul Potts' story probably should have been told.

As it is, *One Chance* is a film that, unless you're a die-hard fan of Paul Potts (and, at a push, a massive fan of James Corden), is best left alone.

VERDICT – A weak and lifeless film, *One Chance* is for Paul Potts devotees only; charming turns from James Corden and Alexandra Roach aside, the film is a limp and often cringeworthy attempt at wringing drama from the life of a reality TV show contestant. It attempts to hit the notes of an underdog story but, ironically for a film about singing, is distinctly off-key; in Britain's *Got Talent* terms, this film gets three Xs. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: Billy Elliott (2000), *Once* (2006).



by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen
Talk on Twitter –
@GEMScreenTalk

Ghostly origins of Hallowe'en festival

OCTOBER is the 10th month on the Gregorian calendar, and was the eighth on the Roman calendar.

It comes from the Latin word 'octo' which means eight. The Welsh know it as Hydref, whereas the Anglo-Saxons called October Wintifriðlith, because of the full moon (fylleth), and winter begins after it.

In Germany, they called it Weinmond signifying the month of Wine.

The most famous date in October falls on the 31st with the traditions of Hallowe'en, which is one of the three spirit days when the dead are believed to roam the earth's plane.

The other two are Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Witching hour falls at midnight on this date when these cackling sorceresses are said to roam our skies.

But the ancient festival of Hallowe'en (or its original title All Hallows Eve) dates back to the 16th Century (1556), and was first recognised at the Celtic Festival of Samhain, a celebration of the end of the harvest.

The burning of bonfires was thought to attract insects that would become magnets to the flames of the fire and foodstuff for bats, the traditional eerie creature widely associated with the occasion.

All Hallows Eve was a festival with a pagan background too, honouring the dead by the ringing of bells for the souls of unrest awaiting permission to enter heaven.

This place of unrest is also known as purgatory.

Bread and soul cakes were baked as offerings to the spirits on this day in the belief that the borders between the living and the dead would become one, and the deceased would cause chaos by casting spells of sickness and damaging crops upon communities on earth.

To deter this spell of evil, people would dress up in costumes and masks so that they could not be recognised by this unearthly parade of 'zombies'.

This ritual was also known as guising because the people were imitating supernatural scary mortals.

Hallowe'en is the night before All Saints Day, (November 1) and is a time when people believed that the souls of the dead would wander the earth to gain vengeance on their enemies before taking their place of rest beyond our earthly realm.

The burning of candles was also thought to help these spirits to retire to their rightful place of rest.

Some historians claim that the origins of Hallowe'en come from the Roman feast of Pomona, the goddess of fruits and seeds.

This festival related to the harvest, which allegedly enticed fairies to fly through the air to signify peace.

Another symbol associated with Hallowe'en comprised of Jack o'Lanterns, which were carved out of turnips or swedes with burning candles inside.

These were devotedly used in the belief that a blazing candle would ward off all evil. This folklore derives from a farmer of ancient times who deviously trapped the devil by tricking him into climbing a tree.

By placing wooden crosses around its base, the evil one would be unable to return to the ground, and therefore could not implore his evil upon the living.

Other interpretations of Hallowe'en include the depictions of death, evil, occult, mythical monsters and witches, who are said to patrol the earth on travelling contraptions resembling broomsticks on this abhorrent night.

During the early 1900s, the erroneous belief of writing fortunes using milk onto white paper was popular.

The dried paper was then folded and placed into a walnut or hazelnut shell, and cooked on an open fire.

The browned writing as it cooked in the flames would then predict the maiden's future husband.

Nos Galan Gaeaf (winter's eve in Welsh) was considered to depict the first day of winter.

Traditionally, Welsh families would place heavenly food on windowsills as offerings to their ancestors, whilst praying for their protection from the evils of Hallowe'en.

Ghostly tales also seem to emulate on All Hallows Eve. The manifestations of drowned sailors ride the waves of the seas around Glamorgan as if on horseback.

They are usually in visitation until the phantom bells ring out loudly from beneath the waters at midnight on this terrifying night.

Graveyards are also the target of ghostly beings, where piercing cries emerge from the depths of the earth below in the trickery of luring the living to walk around the church twelve times at midnight.

The names of villagers who are destined to die within the year ahead are eerily chanted from beyond the grave at the last chime forecasting midnight.

Illusory fires burn upon the hillsides around the villages of Wales, with spectral folk dancing around them while singing eerie songs in an unrecognisable language.

But what could these performances be for, and why would they want to bellow out chants in a dialect beyond our understanding? Myth or legend?

It's up to you to decide...

Hayley Williams
hayley.williams550@yahoo.com
My All New Hallowe'en Ghost Talk and Walk is on Thursday, October 31 (tonight) at 6pm at the Swan Inn, Nottage, Porthcawl, £2.50 – buffet available afterwards!

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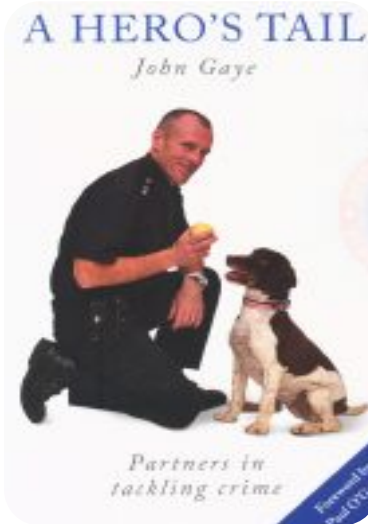
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A HERO'S TAIL REVEALS WORK OF SOUTH WALES' CRIME-BUSTING DOGS



LEFT: The cover of the new book on a policeman's best friend.

A HERO'S TAIL is a charming book featuring crime-busting dogs in south Wales.

Written by John Gaye, it tells dozens of fascinating stories from the South Wales Police Dog Section.

Dogs can help in revealing vital information or tracking criminals in relation to a wide range of crimes – including burglaries, drug and sexual offences, and car crime.

What shines through is the amazing intelligence of the dogs as they chase burglars across fields in the Vale, car thieves on a Swansea estate and

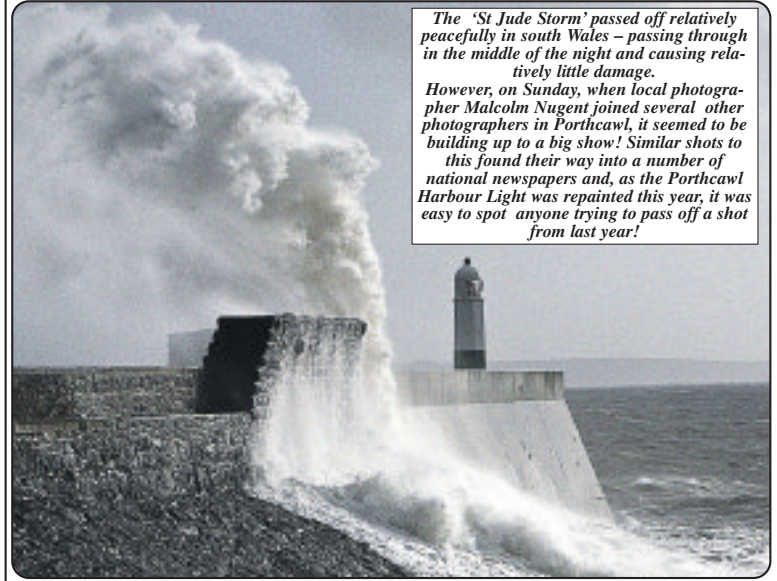
subdue unruly neighbours in the valleys.

It also gives readers an idea of the many crimes that the police are fighting in the hours of darkness – when most law-abiding people are fast asleep.

For dog lovers, it would make an ideal Christmas present – the book is published in partnership with charities 'Wood Green, The Animals Charity' and 'Dogs Trust', and has a foreword by Paul O'Grady.

A Hero's Tail by John Gaye is published by Wood Green, The Animals' Charity at £9.99.

'Hey Jude, you can't better Porthcawl!'



The 'St Jude Storm' passed off relatively peacefully in south Wales – passing through in the middle of the night and causing relatively little damage.

However, on Sunday, when local photographer Malcolm Nugent joined several other photographers in Porthcawl, it seemed to be building up to a big show! Similar shots to this found their way into a number of national newspapers and, as the Porthcawl Harbour Light was repainted this year, it was easy to spot anyone trying to pass off a shot from last year!

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Businesses are urged to be a tourist 'Hub'

Creative Rural Communities and the tourism department of the Vale Council are inviting local businesses to apply to become a tourist information 'Hub'.

In March, the council announced the closure of tourist information centres in Barry and Penarth. Together with the recent closure of the TICs in the surrounding region,

the Vale now has no accessible manned information provision for visitors.

In recent weeks the VoG tourism team, in partnership with Creative Rural Communities, successfully applied for funding through Capital Region Tourism to address visitor information provision in the Vale. As a result, new plans have been developed to increase access to visitor information in a number

of ways, said a council spokesperson.

"We are looking to work with local businesses to set up a number of local tourist information Hubs throughout the region, located in strategic areas accessible to visitors."

"We are looking for businesses to come forward to express an interest in becoming one of these 'Hubs'. These could include local

attractions, shops, cafés, public buildings etc and will provide a manned tourist information service for our visitors. We envisage up to six 'Hubs' being located across the Vale."

For more information contact Nia Hollins, senior rural regeneration officer at Creative Rural Communities on 01446 704767 or email nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

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It's year No. 10 for Cowbridge's festival and it's still the tops for food and drink lovers

PHOTOGRAPHS
by **GLYN EVANS**

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AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

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FOR the Cowbridge Festival of Food and Drink this year it was a race against time, with the 'St Jude Storm' heading for south Wales.

However, the Atlantic tempest – which turned out to be less than fearsome in the Vale – arrived after the traders had packed their stalls away, leaving visitors to reflect on another fine week-end of gourmet living!



Visitors from the Vale's twin towns were offering their own produce.



ABOVE: Learning to milk a cow!



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by top chefs were
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**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG**
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Town and Country Planning
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M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT



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Christmas Party Guide



HOW TO SAIL THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS PARTY...

...and feel great the day after!

DO you want to sail through that Christmas party and still feel bright and breezy the next day?

Well, Government health experts have issued advice on how to prepare for the big event, and what you should do and what you should avoid.

After all, Christmas parties are great fun, and food and drink can be an important part of the party.

However, if you've recently been making an effort to lose weight, then you don't want to give yourself a kicking two days later when you step on the weighing scales!

Before the party, plan your meals for the day.

Choose regular, light meals. Most parties have food and it's fine to choose a few of your favourite dishes, but don't arrive starving, as you'll be more likely to over-eat.

Try to eat a healthy snack to help you manage temptation at the buffet. Something with wholegrain will help to keep you fuller for longer, perhaps a small bowl of cereal.

Drink a large glass of water, because arriving thirsty and reaching for sugary mixers and alcohol will do your body no good.

When you get to the party, here are some bright ideas:

- Choose small portions of two or three kinds of food that you like. There's no need to suffer, and eating 'treat' foods in small amounts will help.

- Look for healthy options. Among the sausage rolls and mince pies there are often healthier and more fill-

ing options, for example fruit platters, whole-grain crackers, unsalted

nuts (have 3 or 4), pretzels and olives (just watch your portion

size).

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 21)

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Christmas Party Guide

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20)

- Beware of pastries, fried snacks or crisps, as all are high in fat and energy.
- Don't head back for seconds and keep away from the buffet table. Unless you have great will-power, being close to your favourite foods won't do you any favours.
- Plan what you intend to drink before you arrive at the party. Try to stick to diet, low-calorie mixers, and alternate alcoholic drinks with non-alcoholic.

Top white wine up with ice and diet lemonade or soda

water, and remember that some beers, lagers and ciders, contain more than 200 calories per pint!

Avoid cocktails: these are usually a high-calorie option, especially those containing liqueurs, cream, coconut milk or egg yolks.

- Dance! It's a great way of burning energy and having fun!

If you're driving, remember to stay within safe alcohol limits.

THE SIX BELLS PENMARK IS THE PERFECT CHOICE TO CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON

MARK TUCK and James Barnsley, owners of The Six Bells, Penmark continue to build their reputation for a welcoming atmosphere, delicious home-cooked food and friendly service.

Combine these with becoming a full free house again, they are certainly putting the Vale of Glamorgan pub and restaurant (only three minutes drive from Cardiff Airport) back on the map.

The focus is now turning to the coming Christmas season. Boasting a contemporary decorated restaurant and delightful function room, it is an ideal venue to celebrate the festive season.

Exciting menus and special events have been planned to ensure everyone has an enjoyable time. Christmas lunch and dinner will be served throughout December and are ideal for office or club and association colleagues to get together, or even friends and family. Also, on Saturday, December 7, 14, and 21,

Christmas party nights have been organised with a three-course menu, singer and disco for only £25 per person; not forgetting Christmas day, when families can get together and let somebody else do the cooking, for £54 per person.

"We are serving Christmas Day lunch for the first time in three years, and we are so thrilled to be welcoming customers in on such a special day.

"Being Mark's favourite time of year, we decorate the whole building with traditional trimmings and along with the open fires roaring, it's like home-from-home," commented James.

"Also, why not come to The Six Bells for a wonderful evening to welcome in the New Year. There is a luxury hot and cold buffet, midnight firework display, disco and an all inclusive bar."

To receive further information or to book call 01446 710229 or visit www.sixbellspenmark.co.uk and let The Six Bells, Penmark take care of your festive celebrations.

Vale People First get special tour of the Senedd...



VALE People First, which supports people with learning disabilities, recently visited the Senedd, for a tour and a talk with Jane Hutt AM, as part of the 'Real Lives' project.

Funded by the Big Lottery, the project brings together members from Cardiff and Vale People First to explore new opportunities for adults with a learning disability.

Ms Hutt reported: "I was delighted to welcome the members of Vale People First. It was inspiring to hear their stories and their challenges."

How could anyone follow Noble speech?



DR PETER BECK AND ROY NOBLE.

THE Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, hosted the annual Lieutenant dinner last week in Cardiff.

Deputy Lieutenants and guests enjoyed a convivial evening and a most entertaining after-dinner speech by the present Vice Lord Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan, well known broadcaster, Roy Noble.

Dr Beck concluded by saying: "How can anyone follow that?"

MPs' report into nuisance calls

VALE MP Alun Cairns and Mike Crockart MP, co-chairs of the All-party parliamentary group on nuisance calls, launched the group's inquiry report into the unsolicited marketing industry earlier this week.

The group was set up to investigate constituents' experiences and encourage policies to prevent unwanted calls.

The main recommendations include caller line identification free of charge; marketing calls carrying valid caller line identification; a short code to report nuisance calls; and telecom companies blocking numbers known to be making nuisance calls.

Hairstylists in federation's artistic team

HAIRSTYLISTS Stacey Ranson and Ella Hill of Coast Salon, St Brides Major, were selected to be part of the six-strong Welsh Area National Hairdressers Federation Artistic Team.

They styled the hair on 12 professional female models and four male models for the catwalk show at the Hilton Hotel, Cardiff, which was part of Cardiff Fashion Week.

Coast salon owner Stacey said: "We have been preparing and practicing the looks for over two months, which were inspired by Nicole Kidman's Golden Globe hairstyle."

"The preparations were shown as a photo shoot and a team video being streamed throughout the venue."

Stacey added: "On the day, we started work on the models at 7.30am and following four presentations of the hour long show, we finally packed our bags and left the Hilton at 9pm."

"It was exhausting but exhilarating." The following day, the team presented eight of the models, led by their artistic director, Michelle Morris, at the Welsh Hairdressing Awards evening, to rapturous applause from the Welsh hairdressing industry's cognoscenti.

THE SIX BELLS Penmark

Village Pub & Restaurant

CHRISTMAS DAY

Served 12 noon until 3pm

Cream of Leek and Potato Soup (v)
with a drizzle of cream & crispy shredded leeks

Pan Fried Tiger Prawns

finished with a garlic, white wine & lemon sauce

Wild Mushroom Risotto (v)

topped with parsnip crisps and truffle oil

Whole Confit Leg of Duck

on a micro leaf salad with an orange vinaigrette

Traditional Roast Glamorgan Turkey

with all the festive trimmings

Fillet of Beef Wellington

coated with pate & mushrooms encrust in pastry with a rich Madeira sauce

Pan Fried Halibut Steak

served with black pudding dauphinoise potatoes & sage beurre blanc

Sun Blushed Tomato & Goats

Cheese Charlotte (v)

served with a roasted red pepper & basil sauce

All served with potatoes and seasonal vegetables

Traditional Christmas Pudding

with a rich and warming brandy sauce

Belgian Chocolate Cheese Cake

with a strawberry & mint syrup

Winter Berry Pavlova

with Chantilly cream & raspberry coulis

Selection of Welsh Cheeses

with assorted biscuits, grapes and celery

£54 per person

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- Breaded king prawns accompanied by lemon mayo

Main Course

- Roast local turkey breast with all the trimmings
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- Beef inside in a peppercorn sauce
- Goats cheese with caramelised red onion and Cranberry in a puff pastry

All main meals are served with a selection of seasonal vegetables and potatoes

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- Christmas pudding with traditional brandy sauce
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- Apple strudel with nutmeg and cinnamon custard
- Marios Bacon honey ice cream

£17.95 per person
Children £12.95

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Wales Care 'Oscars' for two safety film-makers

PORHCRAWL grandfather Steve Williams and friend Nico Burgui, who made a film which could save lives in a fire, have won a prestigious award.

It all started with a chat between Steve and colleague Nico, but ended with several versions of a successful and acclaimed video, which won the bronze accolade in a Social Care Health and Safety Award category. It was presented at the annual Wales Care Award during a glittering evening at Cardiff City Hall, organised by Care Forum Wales. Their category was sponsored by Public Health Wales.

Steve and Nico are in the participation team for the Innovate Trust, based at Canton, Cardiff. The Trust began life as a student volunteer project at Cardiff University and it gives



Steve Williams and Nico Burgui.

support and guidance to the disabled.

It aids those with learning difficulties, mental health issues and also with physical impairments.

The Trust made history by developing the first Supported Living house in Britain for individuals with a learning disability.

Steve and Nico were nominated by Andrew Mouncher, maintenance manager of the First Choice Housing

Association of Penarth, who says their work will help to prevent fires not only locally but nationally.

"We provide properties as a social landlord, including for people with learning difficulties, and the fire safety of our tenants is extremely important to us," he explained.

At the launch of the film, Des Mason of South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, said: "This film will most certainly save lives. What Innovate Trust have done is to extend the fire prevention work of the fire service to a diverse audience. We will be using this film for many years to come."

Steve, who is 60 and married with three children and three grandsons, lives at Newton and has been 20 years with Innovate, seven in his Participation role. Some of the tenants had themselves been involved as "actors".

There were several versions of the film, which is 20 minutes long, with an abridged version of 10 minutes: "One version is in Welsh and there is also an audio-descriptive version for the visually impaired. There is also sign language to help those who are deaf," he explained.

Steve said there were 200 tenants who were supported in their own homes, and he made it his task to know them individually.

Nico Burgui (35) who is married and lives in Canton, has been with Innovate Trust for five and a half years.

He said: "The fire safety film started with a short chat with Steve. It began as a small project but then became a massive leap for us. We never thought it would go so far but now the NHS are using it and it is shown not only to

Choir's triumph

COR Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch (Maesteg and District male choir) recently travelled to Bristol to perform in a concert as guests of the Bristol East and Kingswood Band, past West of England champions.

The choir were delighted when they saw the venue in which they would be performing with the band. It was the impressive listed Wesley memorial church built in 1907; an imposing Edwardian gothic church that has retained its original fittings and layout.

The scene was set with the band commencing playing its varied repertoire under its musical director Ben Vleminkx.

It was difficult for the choir to follow a band of such quality but follow it did, and the audience were treated to traditional Welsh choral music for which the choir is renowned.

The musical director for the evening was Huw Morgan with his wife Catherine playing the organ; both hail from Pontardawe. The choir's piano accompanist was Rhian Jenkins.

The packed audience was treated to favourites such as 'The Roman War Song', 'Speed your journey', 'Anthem from Chess' the last was to an arrangement by Huw Morgan, and many others which had the audience requesting more.

One of the highlights of the evening occurred with the choir singing and joined by the band playing the music of the famous 'Morte Christie'. This had the audience on their feet for a standing ovation.

Huw Morgan, who was also the compere for the evening, kept the moment alive, and the choir and band joined together for 'The American Trilogy'.

The choir and band received a vote of thanks from the Rev Denise Yeadon, as all proceeds

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycod1@yahoo.co.uk



were going towards the church funds.

The choir was treated to an excellent buffet as guests of the band at the local cricket club where they enjoyed the 'Afterglow'.

A vote of thanks was given by the choir's vice chairman Tudor Thomas and secretary Gerwyn Thomas.

The choir is recruiting for its many charity concert engagements. Like all choirs large and small, it suffers from natural wastage. People move house, they have new commitments, so the choir is always on the lookout for new choristers.

The choir has an excellent musical team in Rhian Jenkins, Huw Morgan and Ryan Wood and its experienced choristers are only too willing to assist newcomers. If anyone would like to know more about the choir before committing themselves, go along to a practice on Thursday evenings at the Maesteg Celtic Club, Garth between 7pm-9pm.

Winter show TONDU and District Art Society will be holding its winter exhibition from November 9-12 in the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig; entrance to the exhibition is free, and everyone is welcome.

The exhibition is open for viewing at the centre between 10am and 6pm except Sunday when it is 11am to 4pm.

There are two classes of competition on exhibit, namely 'Winter Scenes' and 'The Valleys Past and Present'. There will be

over 150 paintings on show, painted by 50 local artists.

Poppy appeal SILVER bands and choirs are combining to raise money for the Royal British Legion poppy appeal, in remembrance of those who have served in the armed forces and lost their lives, or been injured.

The appeal helps the widows and families of these armed forces personnel. In the last 12 months, it has provided over £56 million in aid to these unfortunate people.

Pencoed concert

ON Sunday, November 3 starting at 7.30pm, the Pencoed Silver Band is combining with Brackla Community Chorus in a concert at the old Royal British Legion club, now the Social Club, Hendre Road, Pencoed.

Tickets are £3 from members of the band, choristers and the club.

Maesteg concert

ON November 9 in the town hall, there is a concert at Maesteg town hall with local raconteur Anthony Bywe as compere and Briton Ferry silver band and Maesteg 'Gleemen' male voice choir.

Miss Bridgend finalist, Nicky Casey, will be the soloist.

The concert starts at 7pm and tickets cost £5, obtainable from the Royal British Legion and the town hall box office.

Christian Aid THERE will be a concert in Central Church, Maesteg on November 14 by Maesteg children's choir, to help raise funds for Christian Aid.

The choir will be conducted by its musical director Enid Sian Hughes and the accompanist will be Sian Davies.

There will also be two soloists, both finalists in the Bridgend 'Young Singer' of the year competition, Rhian Hughes and Aled Williams, and both were brilliant stars in the recent Maesteg Amateur Operatic Society show of 'Jekyll and Hyde'.

Island foray

WHILST enjoying its main role of entertaining appreciative audiences, Bridgend Male Choir also enjoy the

choristers also indulged in some hours of informal harmonising around the city!

Get together OGMORE Vale primary school acting headteacher J Morgan says it is proposed to hold meetings between the parents and their children's teachers on November 11/12.

This will give everyone the opportunity to find out how their children are settling into their new classes.

Pupils' disco

TYNYRHEOL primary school, Llangenor PTFE is organising a disco for the end of term tomorrow Friday, October 25.

Pupils are asked to donate £1 each or £2 per family for coming to school in fancy dress or their own clothes. All proceeds will go to the school.

Refreshments will be available to buy at the disco; Children can also buy glitter tattoos and ink tattoos for £1 each.

The school appreciates parents' support, as the PTFE put on events to raise money for the pupils in the school and help considerably towards funding school trips and equipment.

On November 7, the school will be working alongside artist, Steve Knapik to participate in a world record bid (theme - landscapes around the Millennium Stadium).

Every pupil will take part by drawing their own landscape pictures. Times for individual classes are: Class 1 - 9.15am to 10.15am.

Class 2 - 11am to 12noon. Class 3 - 1pm to 2pm.

Parents can join in with their own pictures to help towards the world record. They will also be helping the 'Blue Balloon Charity, a charity that helps children in hospitals in Wales and Romania.

Great escape from PoW camp

A talk entitled 'The Story of Island Farm', was given by Mike Chubb at the October meeting of St Hilary WI, which took place in the village hall

Mike told members that Island Farm Camp was originally built as a hostel for workers employed at the munitions factory in Bridgend.

The authorities had believed that the female workers would rather stay nearby than travel as much as 30 miles home each day, but the women preferred to travel rather than stay in the dreary barrack conditions of the hostel.

The camp, therefore, remained empty until 1943, when it was used to accommodate American troops who would be involved in the invasion of France.

After this, the camp was converted into a PoW camp for a mixed bag of Italian and German troops, who soon turned their efforts to planning an escape.

Because of poor security, 70 prisoners were able to dig a tunnel and make their getaway. All were recaptured; some were found within a few miles of the camp, but others travelled much

further, to places like Birmingham and Southampton.

The description of the escape held members enthralled and amazed at how many mistakes were made and how much luck was involved in the capture of the escapees.

Mike finished his entertaining talk by saying that the camp was finally designated Special Camp Eleven and used to incarcerate 180 senior German officers, many of whom had been captured in France and were awaiting trial at Nuremberg... Quite a chequered history of Island Farm Camp, Bridgend.

After Mike's talk, refreshments were served and then the business part of the meeting was conducted by the president, Betty Thomas.

The date for the Christmas dinner was agreed for Tuesday, December 17 and it was decided to hold an auction at the November meeting to help raise funds, and each member was asked to bring a plate of food for the supper.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12 at 7pm in St Hilary Village Hall. SD

Remember, remember the animals!

FIREWORKS festivities are set to go off with a bang over the next few weeks and while this is enjoyable for people, it can be distressing for many dogs.

At Dogs Trust, the UK's largest dog welfare charity, we find ourselves taking in traumatised dogs which have run away from their homes at this time of year.

Sadly, some owners cannot be traced. We urge owners to prepare their routine around fireworks night and during Diwali, to try to minimise the trauma on

their poor pets and ensure their dogs do not end up straying through fear.

Make sure you are prepared throughout the fireworks season. If you're organising a fireworks display please consider your neighbour's pets. A bit of forward planning can go a long way to make life less stressful for pets at this time of year. For more advice please visit: www.dogstrust.org.uk/affireworks/

Paula Boyden
Dogs Trust Veterinary Director

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DOUT DIAMOND'S SANDVILLE BASH AT THE HI TIDE!



ABOVE:
Sister Gwyneth Poacher
with Dave Jones, Manager
(Hi Tide) and The Ragdolls:
Michael Shaw, Steven
Mitchell and Michael
Cosgrove.

by
**KEITH E
MORGAN**

Let a little bit of Magic into your home!

Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun,
Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656
722012

Email: bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk



ABOVE – brave little Magic.

THIS beautiful kitten, called 'Magic' was admitted to the Cats Protection Adoption Centre at Bryncethin with a crush injury to her paw; sadly, our vet was unable to save her paw and she had to have her leg amputated.

She was one of six kittens born to a stray, unneutered female cat. The mum had taken shelter in the service area of Bridgend Designer Outlet and unbeknown to staff, had given birth to and raised her kittens there.

This is a very busy and unsafe area for cats due to deliveries, pallets being moved etc and it is where Magic received her injury.

The mum cat was very thin; she had been scavenging from bins and hunting to survive.

"We were glad to be able to help Bridgend

Designer Outlet with these kittens, the staff there did a great job of catching the mum and kittens and they are all doing well in our care.

"Magic is recovering amazingly well after her operation and has already adapted well, walking, jumping and climbing with no difficulty."

This story highlights the importance of neutering. Every year we have over 500 unwanted kittens through our doors.

Neutering prevents a lot of unnecessary suffering and reduces the continuing influx of unwanted kittens.

It is also much healthier for cats. Part cost vouchers are available from our head office to members of the public on low income and income-based benefits.

To apply for a voucher, please ring 03000 12 12 12 between 9am – 1pm, Monday – Friday.

SUE DOBBS,
Centre Manager



Sister Gwyneth Poacher being presented with a cheque for £2,510 by Ryan Bevington, Ospreys and Wales prop forward, and Dout Diamond.

DOUT DIAMOND refuses to give up, and presented yet another of his spectacular Saturday night Bashes at the Hi Tide in aid of the Sandville Self Help Centre at Tŷn Kenfig.

This was the 11th year for the Bash to be held and the Hi Tide was packed to capacity for the event.

To date, Dout has raised over £140,000 for The Sandville, which includes £2,510 for the current Bash. A cheque for £2,510 was presented to a very grateful Sister Gwyneth Poacher at the end of the evening's entertainment by Ryan Bevington, Osprey and Wales prop forward.

Ryan also gave this very special lady, a bear hug that only a rugby prop forward can give. Needless to say, Gwyneth is still trying to

catch her breath!

The evening's entertainment was organised by Dout Diamond in collaboration with Dave Jones, Manager of the Hi Tide. Lenny Dee was the MC and as well as performing himself in his own impeccable manner he introduced Jessica McNeil, a 15-year-old vocalist from Neath, as well as The Ragdolls, a threesome, who gave their heart and soul into A Tribute to Frankie Valli of the Four Seasons.

During their performance, the dance floor was continually crammed full of dancers jostling to the music of the 60s and 70s.

Following the obligatory raffle, the entertainment carried on into the early hours, with Dout Diamond himself taking to the stage to complete an eventful and spectacular Evening's Bash, in aid of The Sandville.



ABOVE: Lenny Dee introducing young vocalist Jessica McNeil.



Wedding fayre welcomes brides!

On the stand at the wedding fayre last year (left to right) Angela Roberts from the parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla, a customer, and Revd Babs Wood of Llanharan.

CLERGY in Bridgend will be swapping their pulpits for a stand at a wedding fayre at the Coed-y-Mwstwr Hotel, Coychurch, on Sunday (November 3) from 11am to 4pm.

It is the second year that clergy from the Bridgend Deanery have run a stand at the fayre, following their success last year.

Rev Mike Komor of Coity, Nolton and Brackla, said: "Our first stand came about last year because we had been talking about how many young people seem to be under the mis-perception that unless they attend a

church, they can't get married in one. We hit upon the idea of attending a wedding fayre to raise awareness of this issue."

A dvd was produced featuring both clerics and some couples who had got married in church despite not being members. A special quiz was devised with ten questions starting off with, "Can you get married in church if you don't attend?"

All those who attempted the quiz were given goody bags with the answers, a copy of the dvd and special wedding chocolate.

"Everyone we spoke to seemed genuinely interested in what we were doing, and by going through

the quiz answers with couples we were able to dispel many of the myths that unfortunately now surround church weddings," said Revd Komor.

"An equally positive reaction was received from a number of the other exhibitors, especially from those who had some personal connection with a church themselves."

"Though they were veterans of wedding fayres, we were a category of exhibitor that they hadn't encountered before!"

"Due to the success last year, we are all set for our second wedding fayre this weekend." **AY**

SPOOKY THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE PARK!

RIGHT:
Megan Margetson,
Grace Gavigan, Amaris
Lambert, and Jessica
Margets making
lanterns and skeletons.



THINGS went bump in the night at the recent Hallowe'en Spooktacular event at Bryngarw House and Country Park as visitors enjoyed a terrifying evening of ghoulishly fun activities.

"Despite the weather, the sold-out event was a great success and everyone involved got into the spirit of the evening, with children arriving in spooky fancy dress including Bryngarw's hardy volunteers who dressed as zombies, witches and ghouls as part of the spooky tour," a spokeswoman reported.

Families enjoyed an evening of spooky face painting by Ashleigh Hill, terrifying stories from World of Connections and art and craft sessions so children could make their very own lantern and skeleton and take part in a skull hunt and scary games.

To end an enjoyable evening, Cedars Tearoom supplied hand-carved pumpkins and special Hallowe'en beverages to warm up the little monsters on their return to the visitor centre from their spooky tour.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing said: "I am delighted that so many local families, as well as those from outside of the borough, are making the most of our beautiful park."

"We opened the new visitor centre and café a year ago as part of the One Historic Garden



Project, as we wanted to provide better facilities for visitors to enjoy – so it's great to see them so busy. Well done to everyone involved in making the Hallowe'en event a success."

ABOVE:
Tyler Yeaman, Charlie Mcensie and Finley Riley-Evans about to go on their skull hunt.

Students stage first exhibition at Penarth Pier

IN the run-up to the full opening of the Penarth Pier Pavilion in December this year, students at St Cyres School helped to organise a very successful art exhibition at the pier this month.

The exhibition was a collaborative project introduced by education manager Abi Trotman, enabling sixth form pupils to act in a professional capacity to curate their own exhibition.

This was the first opportunity for these students to develop an understanding of what it feels like to be a professional artist and exhibit your work to the public.

The head of art, Ms Emma Fisher, met Pavilion staff just before the school summer holidays and was shocked to discover that the exhibition diary was totally booked up until the start of 2015.

This meant either exhibit the work just six weeks into the new autumn term or wait another two years. The opportunity was far too exciting to wait!

As the director of the Pavilion Project, David Trotman, mentioned in his speech, 'Contrast' is the very first art and design exhibition to be held in the refurbished building.

The pavilion staff are keen to work with pupils from a variety of schools and with varying levels of ability. With this in mind, the St Cyres School pupils enjoyed collaborating with Ysgol-Y-Deri pupils.

Work was exhibited by three groups of students. The current year-12 selected their best piece of GCSE work. Year 13 provided their AS Level final pieces and there was a series of work from students who have recently moved onto higher education.

It was wonderful to see them return on the open evening and talk about their work with the younger artists. The students planned the exhibition, holding meetings, selecting and hanging work and providing refreshments and raffle prizes on the evening.

Jason Cook, year-13, designed the poster and programme composing everyone's ideas into one design. "The difficulty was that everyone had a totally different starting point for their project so 'Contrast' represents the varied points of view, styles and use of media," said Jason.

He also invited a local artist whose work he is currently studying, Sheridan Ward, who has produced paintings of the pier and will be at the pavilion in February 2014.

Public reaction to the work has been fantastic; the comment book provided excellent feedback which



ABOVE, LEFT and RIGHT:
Willing hands set up the exhibition.



All Age service in Penarth church

THE monthly All Age service at All Saints Church, Penarth on October 27 attracted the usual large congregation, including members of 12th Penarth Brownie Pack, who enjoyed assisting with the collection and serving refreshments after the service.

This month's theme was the story Jesus told of the Good Samaritan, and what it teaches us about loving our neigh-

bour. The story was told through an 'instant drama' using volunteers from the congregation, and the address was given by Reader Jennifer Hardy.

Prayers were led by members of the youth group, and the service included the usual mix of traditional hymns and contemporary worship songs.

The next All Age service will be on Sunday, November 24 at 10am – all are welcome. For more information, visit www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk.

Empty properties could qualify for £25,000 makeover

OWNERS of empty properties in the Vale are being offered up to £25,000 to bring them back into use.

Under the Welsh Government's Houses into Homes scheme, the Vale Council is inviting owners to apply for an interest-free loan to pay for renovation work.

To apply for a loan, the property must have been empty for a minimum of six months.

For further information about the Houses into Homes Scheme contact the council's empty property officer Georgina Wayman on 01446 709838.

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CF63 4HN

GROVE ESTATES



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- A 4 bedroom detached property in popular location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
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- Spacious gardens
- Views across Bristol channel

£235,000



MERTHYR DYFAN ROAD, BARRY

- A 2 bedroom semi detached property in a popular residential area.
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- Good size kitchen/diner with an additional utility room
- Enclosed gardens to front & rear
- Offered freehold with no chain

£115,000



CHURCH COTTAGE, RHOOSE

- Beautifully maintained & extended 3 bedroom semi detached property
- Original cottage dating back to around early 19th century & extended in approx 1980's
- Generously proportioned grounds to rear with parking for approx 5-6 cars
- Balcony accessed from master bedroom with views over Rhoose
- Offered freehold and open to reasonable offers

£255,000



CHURCH ROAD, BARRY

- 3 bedroom mid terrace property close to transport links in & out of Barry
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- Enclosed garden to rear
- Would make an ideal investment or 1st purchase
- Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£92,950



MERTHYR STREET, BARRY

- 2 bedroom mid terrace property in central location
- Gas central heating & double glazing with enclosed garden to rear
- In need of some work throughout
- Recently improved by Castleland regeneration scheme externally
- Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£89,950



LEE ROAD, BARRY

- 3 bedroom mid terrace property within walking distance to town centre
- Low maintenance garden to rear
- Gas central heating & double glazed throughout
- An ideal investment opportunity or 1st time purchase
- Offered freehold with vacant possession

£90,000

RENTALS

Newlands Street

2 bedroom first floor flat.
GCH. DG. Unfurnished.

£425 pcm

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2 bedroom ground floor flat.
GCH. DG. Unfurnished.

£495 pcm

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£525 pcm

Merthyr Dyfan

2 bedroom semi detached.
GCH. DG. Enclosed gardens.
Fully furnished.

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3 bedroom property.
Conservatory. GCH. DG.
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£575 pcm

Merthyr Street

3 bedroom end of terrace property.
GCH. DG. Unfurnished.

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Brookfield Avenue

3 bedroom detached split level bungalow.
GCH. DG. Garage. Unfurnished.

£625 pcm

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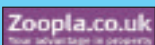
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RHODFA GWAGENNI, BARRY
 Three storey town house, entrance hallway, wc cloakroom, 4/5 bedrooms, no chain, enclosed garden, patio area, garage, designated parking.
£159,950



SALISBURY ROAD, BARRY
 Mid terraced traditional, in need of modernising, entrance hallway, through living room, kitchen, two bedrooms, small courtyard garden, garage/lane access, no chain.
£110,000



HEOL ERY MOR, BARRY
 Modern end of link, immaculate presentation, living room, conservatory, four bedrooms, two ensuite & family bathroom, far reaching views over the Bristol Channel, garage.
£209,950



COLLARD CRESCENT, BARRY
 Extended semi detached, living room, dining room, cloakroom, study, four bedrooms, family shower room, garage to rear, enclosed rear garden. ER-D.
£164,950



AFAL SUR, BARRY
 Elevated three bedroomed split level modern, cul de sac position, master ensuite/dressing (on ground floor), converted garage (living room), spacious accommodation, no chain.
£209,950



DYFAN ROAD, BARRY
 Three bedrooms, semi detached, could easily extend (subject to usual planning), two reception rooms, front, side & rear gardens.
£124,950



BUTT LEE COURT, BARRY
 Modern apartment, no chain, 2nd floor, refurbished throughout, sea views over Bristol Channel, spacious living room, gas central heating, upvc dg throughout, parking in block.
£92,500



JENNER ROAD, BARRY
 Show home presented, 2 bedroomed stunning apartment, living room, kitchen opening to breakfast room, shower room, views over Bristol Channel, driveway/parking. ER-C.
£99,950



OLD VILLAGE ROAD, BARRY
 Traditional detached, spacious living, 22ft kitchen/breakfast, sea views to rear, enclosed rear garden, four bedrooms, well presented, minutes walk to Romilly Park. ER-F.
£249,950



BERYL ROAD BARRY
 Three bedrooms, semi detached, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast, enclosed rear level garden, upvc double glazing throughout, no chain. EPC-D.
£114,950



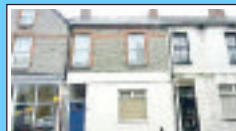
TYNEWYDD ROAD, BARRY
 Mid terraced traditional, spacious living, bay fronted, four bedrooms, three reception rooms, double glazing throughout, enclosed garden, town centre location, no chain. EPC-C.
£119,950



MAES GLAS, BARRY
 Spacious living throughout, living room, dining room, snug (converted garage), extended breakfast kitchen, wc cloak, utility room, four bedrooms (master ensuite), enclosed rear garden. ER-D.
£249,950



EDWARD STREET, BARRY
 Detached bungalow, living room, three bedrooms, kitchen/breakfast, family bathroom, driveway/garage, upvc double glazing, enclosed rear garden, no chain.
£124,950



BARRY ROAD, BARRY
 First floor apartment, living room, kitchen, shower room, double bedroom, upvc dg - gch via combi, no chain. ER-D.
£59,950



ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY
 Drawing room, sitting room, recently replaced kitchen/dining, five bedrooms, ensuite & separate steam/shower, original features throughout.
£399,950



ROMILLY AVENUE, BARRY
 Mid terraced, traditional dwelling, popular location, two reception rooms, four bedrooms, enclosed rear garden, no chain. ER-E.
£229,950



GREENACRES, BARRY
 Extended modern detached, wc cloakroom, living room, modern fitted kitchen, dining room opening to sitting room, 4 bedrooms, enclosed private level garden, garage/driveway. ER-D.
£189,950



CROSSFIELD ROAD, BARRY
 Well presented, four bedroomed, extended semi detached, bay fronted, wc cloakroom, living/dining room, sitting room, driveway providing parking, garage, private garden. ER-D.
£219,950



VICTORIA ROAD, BARRY
 Mid terraced, traditional forecourt, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen three bedrooms, south facing enclosed garden, walking distance to shops, no chain.
£127,500



SOMERSET ROAD EAST, BARRY
 Placed on a corner position, semi detached, ample room to extend (subject to usual planning consent), two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, double garage/ample parking, no chain. ER-D.
£154,500



LOWER PYKE STREET, BARRY
 Extended mid terrace, forecourted front, through 24ft living room, separate dining room, three bedrooms, wc cloak & shower room, three bedrooms. ER-D.
£109,950



CARNY EBOL, BARRY
 Modern detached, three/four bedrooms, living room, dining room, converted garage, master with ensuite, wc cloakroom, low maintenance garden, driveway providing parking. ER-D.
£194,950



PORTH Y CASTELL, BARRY
 Stunning detached, three double bedrooms, open plan living room, dining room & kitchen, wc cloakroom, sitting room, master bedroom leading to sun lounge, sea views. ER-D.
£404,950



TENNYSON ROAD, BARRY
 Three bedroomed, mid linked traditional, well presented, enclosed rear garden, easy access to link Rd.
£102,500



EVERARD STREET, BARRY
 Mid terraced traditional, bay fronted, three bedrooms, attic/hobby area, living room/dining, fitted kitchen, utility, family bathroom, no chain, upvc dg - gch via combi. ER-D.
£119,950



HOEL BROADLANDS, BARRY
 Corner positioned, three bedrooms, modern detached, living room, kitchen/diner, enclosed garden, garage. ER-C.
£174,950



MARINE DRIVE, BARRY
 Spacious semi detached, sun lounge overlooking front, porch - wc cloakroom, living room, open plan modern fitted kitchen/diner, utility, three double bedrooms, driveway/garage. ER-D.
£249,950



PORT ROAD EAST, BARRY
 Spacious detached, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, four bedrooms, master ensuite, double garage, private enclosed garden. ER-E.
£399,950



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HEOL GWENDOLINE

Second floor two bedroom apartment, Waterfront location, unfurnished, kitchen with appliances, designated parking, close to local shops and transport links, no pets, no smokers, no DSS.
£525 per month

THE PASTURES

Two bedroom end link property, medium size rear garden, double & single bedroom, replacement kitchen with newly tiled floor & bathroom, living room and hall, new laminate flooring. Designated parking space, no smokers, no pets, professional.
£550 per month

HEOL CILFRYDD

First floor two bedroom apartment, located Barry Waterfront, open plan lounge & kitchen, master bedroom with ensuite, designated parking, 5 minute walk to town centre, local supermarkets & train station, no pets, no smokers, no DSS.
£550 per month

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£550 per month



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  United House
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or apply in writing to:
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Visible Services and Housing
Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

BERRY COURT, LLANTWIT MAJOR

H4U reference 233451
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £96.15 per week including water charges

CAERLEON ROAD, DINAS POWYS

H4U reference 1105527
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £82.40 per week

CAMMS CORNER, DINAS POWYS

H4U reference 230526
Suit for a family meeting the max occupancy requirement - no pets
• Two-bedroom flat
• Second floor
• Double glazing
• Central heating
Rent £87.85 per week including water charges

CARNE COURT, LLANTWIT MAJOR

H4U reference 233748
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £100.69 per week including water charges

CEDAR WAY, PENARTH

H4U reference 238267
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £107.91 per week including water charges

COPPERFIELD COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1102541
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• Ground floor from rear
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal entrance
• Parking
Rent £77.89 per week including service charges

CORINTHIAN CLOSE, LLANDOUGH

H4U reference 1107717
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom flat
• Second floor
• Double glazing
• Central heating
Rent £86.30 per month

CWM PARC, BARRY

H4U Reference 205446
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• First floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Water meter
• Warden and alarm
Rent £93.93 per week inc water and alarm chgs

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY (2)

H4U Reference 1107308
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• 2x three-bed maisonettes
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Parking
Rent £86.99 per week including service charges

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1106441
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bedroom house
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Enclosed garden
Rent £92.23 per week including service charges

FFORDD ELIN, BARRY

H4U Reference 1060453
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bedroom house
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Enclosed garden
• Parking
Rent £89.48 per week including service charges

GWYN JAMES COURT, PENARTH

H4U Reference 988224
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
• Studio apartment
• First floor (no lift)
• Double glazing
• Gardens/parking
• Scheme co-ordinator
Rent £110.45 per week including heating, water and service charges

HANOVER COURT, DINAS POWYS

H4U reference 996223
Suit. for a single person or couple over 60 (55 with medical needs)
• One-bedroom flat
• First floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Manager and alarm
Rent £113.73 pw including warden and alarm charges

LALESTON CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 214405
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £84.27 per week including water charges

MAGELLAN CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 955456
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom house
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Enclosed garden
• Parking
Rent £82.51 per week including service charges

MERGANSER COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 991417
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bed maisonette
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Enclosed garden
Rent £92.23 per week including service charges

OAK COURT, PENARTH

H4U reference 1095598
Suitable for a single person over 60 (55 with medical needs)
• Studio apartment
• Ground floor
• Economy 7 heating
• Double glazing
• Manager and alarm
Rent £93.62 per week

PHILIPPA FREETH COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 983408
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• First floor (steps)
• Double glazing
• Gardens/parking
• Scheme co-ordinator
Rent £94.75 per week including water and service charges

POWIS VIEW, BARRY

H4U reference 1030440
Suitable for a family meeting the max occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom flat
• Ground floor (steps)
• Double glazing
• Central heating
Rent £81.95 per week

SLADEWOOD HOUSE, BARRY (2)

H4U Reference 223664
Suit for a family meeting the max occupancy requirement - no pets
• 2 x two-bedroom flats
• Lwr ground & first floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal gardens
Rent £84.44 per week including water charges

ST CATHERINES, BARRY

H4U reference 224682
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Three-bed house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £96.36 per week including water charges

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TY GWENFO, BARRY

H4U Reference 1023796
Suitable for a single person - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• Second floor (no lift)
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal entrance
Rent £74.88 per week including service charges

VERE STREET, BARRY

H4U Reference 968199
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
• Two-bedroom flat
• Second floor
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal front door
Rent £75.08 per week including service charges

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D64



Caer Worgan, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Garage
Conservatory

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D62



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E49 - £450 pcm
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Two Double bedrooms,
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Sycamore Avenue, St Athan

C69 - £495 pcm
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Fonmon Park Road, Rhose

C73 - £550 pcm
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Rear Garden

Ash Lane, St Athan

F38 - £525 pcm
Two Bedrooms, Kitchen
Diner, Large Garden

Gerddi Margaret, Barry

B81 - £525 pcm
First Floor Apartment,
Two Bedrooms, Shower

Llanmead Gardens, Rhose

C73 - £575 pcm
Two Bedrooms,
Semi detached, Garage

Barry Road, Barry

F33 - £575 pcm
Three Bedrooms, Large Kitchen,
Gas CH & Upvc DG

Four Acre, Llantwit Major

D63 - £650 pcm
Three Bedrooms, Recently
Redecorated, Large Rear Garden

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St Mellons, Cardiff
C77 - £725 pcm
Three Bedrooms, Kitchen/diner
Enclosed garden

Woodlands Road, Barry

D61 - £750 pcm
Four Bedrooms,
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Llanmead Gardens, Rhose

C72 - £795 pcm
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1 Bedroom
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C80



Flemingston Road, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
No Stamp Duty
No Chain

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E54



Byron Court, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms,
1st Floor Retirement Flat
Scheme Manager

£89,950

C78



Elm Grove, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
No Chain

£94,950

E50



Seys Court, Llantwit Major
Three Bedrooms
Gas Combi Boiler
No Chain

£105,000

C70



Glebeland Place, St Athan
3 Bedrooms,
Family Home
62ft Rear Garden

£125,000

D61



**Monmouth Way, Boverton,
Llantwit Major**
3 Bedrooms, Southerly Aspect
Conservatory

£135,000

C76



**Brecon Street,
Llantwit Major**
3 Bedrooms, Conservatory
Combi Boiler

£139,950

???



St Johns View, St Athan
3 Bedrooms,
Village Location
No Chain

£154,950

D60



**Llantwit Garden Close,
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3 Bedrooms, Conservatory
Garage

£159,950

D59



**Cambrian Avenue,
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3 Bedrooms, View To The Front
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D68



**Church Meadow, Boverton,
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Family Home

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E51

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**Harding Close, Boverton,
Llantwit Major**
3 Bedrooms, Conservatory
Kitchen/Diner

£189,950

C72



Heol-Y-Coed, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Sought After Location
Call Today To View

£210,000

D63



Ty Mawr Gwyn, Flemingston
5 Beds 4 Recps
Adjoining Open Fields
Granny Annex Option

£350,000

E42



Windmill Close, Wick
Detached & Spacious
4 Double Bedrooms
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D66

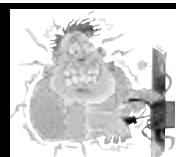


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Greatly missed Mum, Nan & Great Nan
xxxxxx

JENKINS Stanley George

(formerly of the Captain's Wife Inn, Swanbridge)

Peacefully at his home in Llantwit Major on October 24, Stanley, beloved husband of Pat, will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral Monday November 4, service 2pm at St. Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major.
No flowers by request.

IN LOVING MEMORY

BOOBIER Mariea Enosi (née Liosatos)

Peacefully, after a short illness at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, Mariea of Barry.

Leaves behind devoted husband Clive, loving daughters Sonja and Maire, grandchildren Hanna, Kate & Jonathan and great grandchildren James and Grace. Sister to Dimitri, Olga and the late George, sister-in-law to Katsi.

Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the service in the chapel on Tuesday November 5, 2013 at 3.30pm, followed by a crematorium service in the Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 4.30pm.

Family flowers only, donations to The British Lung Foundation Wales, 6a Prospect Place, Swansea SA1 1QP.

Birth Notices

LEIGH PORTER & ALISA THOMAS
are thrilled to announce the birth of their son

ETHAN

weighing in at 6lb 13oz on 25th October

A brother for Ellie, a first grandson for Debbie and Simon, a nephew for Lynsey and a cousin for Erin.

Love from all the family xxx

Birthdays

HAPPY 60th BIRTHDAY GERWYN THOMAS

on 3rd November 2013

Love from
Glenys, Liane,
Iain, Carey,
Emily, Dannii,
Gareth and
all your grandchildren xxx

Public Notice

GEORGE LEADER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the abovesigned deceased, late of 100a Kings Road, London SW14 6TP, who died on 13/04/2012, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 10/01/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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Black belt success for Tae Kwon Do students



BLACK belts in 1st 2nd and 3rd degrees was the reward for several students of the Cadroxton School of Tae Kwon Do recently.

The grading started at 10am on a Saturday morning, testing both the candidates and examiners to the full.

Seven students were put through their paces by Master Ron Thomas, 8th degree, Dutch Master Jaap Teeuwissen, 7th degree, assisted by Chelsea Rees, 4th degree.

The examination consisted of all the traditional aspects of Tae Kwon Do - patterns, set sparring,

free sparring, self-defence, weapons, and theory tests - and to complete the exam a power test consisting of breaking wood with the hands and feet.

After the exam, Master Thomas and Master Teeuwissen complimented the group and their instructors on their ever-improving high standards of Tae Kwon Do.

A celebration buffet and disco was held at Market Street club, Barry, where certificates and new black belts were presented to all the successful candidates.

Promoted to black belts - 1st degrees, Ollie Tipples, Jasmine Sullivan and Hayley Matney.

Promoted to 2nd degree - Matthew Bennett, Anita Sheppard

and Lucy Newman. Promoted to 3rd degree - Bradley Halford.

The following day, there was a full day's training with Master Thomas and Master Teeuwissen, with coloured belts in the morning, while afternoon was for black belts and senior grades.

Pictured with the examiners are the successful candidates: Bradley Halford, Chelsea Rees, Master Jaap Teeuwissen, Master Ron Thomas, Matthew Bennett, Anita Sheppard, Lucy Newman, Ollie Tipples, Jasmine Sullivan and Hayley Matney.

For further information and training times call 01446 406372 or 07811934079.

RT

Veterans petanque championship held

THE Welsh Pétanque Associations (WPA) National Veterans Championship was hosted by the Monkstone Pétanque Club on Sunday, October 20.

Thirteen triples teams from around south-east Wales entered the final championship of the season, which as always was competitively fought.

Over the day, six games were played by each of the teams entered, and it soon became apparent that four teams were in the running to take the title.

The home team of Jim Harrison, Roger Griffin and John Barnes (Monkstone Marauders) became the team to beat; the first team that lost to the local trio was the team of Graham Attfield, Tony Smith and Kon Tomczyk (The Barn PC, Monkstone PC and Caerleon RFC PC).

Next the Age Concern team, consisting of three stalwarts of the Welsh pétanque world, Dai Cannan, Mike Jacques (both of Wenvoe PC) and Jake Caston (Wheatstaple PC, Llanhenock) played the Monkstone Marauders; this time the Marauders lost, placing Age Concern in a strong position to take the title.

The last team in pole position to take the title was GPS comprising Gay Evans, Stewart Spencer (both of the Monkstone Inn PC) and Peter Beresford (Caerleon Club RFC PC) who took on the Monkstone Marauders in the final round of the day. Up to this point GPS had won five games and needed the final game to put them on equal wins with Age Concern.

The Monkstone Marauders took a firm control of the game and failed to allow GPS to enter the game, losing 13-0 and thereby failing to achieve their much needed sixth win.

This left Age Concern the only team to win all their six games of the day with a handsome points difference of +48, taking the 2013 national veterans championship title.

The WPA executive would like to thank all the teams that took part to make this a successful event.

JS

Dinas Powys ladies golf results

THE latest golf results from Dinas Powys Golf Club, ladies section:

On September 19, the senior men challenged the ladies to the annual match and the ladies were the victors.

The men kindly treated the ladies to lunch and drinks afterwards.

On September 24 an 18 hole Norwegian Stableford was played - 1st: Louise Wilding, Lisa Ryley, Sian Smith 123 points; 2nd Ann Mahenthiralingam, Maxine Hird, Annie Blackburn 118.

Nine hole Norwegian Stableford: 1st Pam Warne, June Jones, Iris Sandrey 45 points.

On October 1, an 18 hole Stableford was played: 1st Lisa Ryley 38 points, 2nd Annie Blackburn 37 points, 3rd Audrey Harwood 36

points; nine hole stableford - 1st Terry Unwin 16 points.

On October 8, an 18 hole Waltz was played: 1st Louise Wilding, Carolyn Jones, Angela Brown and Audrey Harwood 86 points; 2nd Ann Mahenthiralingam, Ruth Yates and Pat Gosling 76 points.

9 hole waltz: Angela Thomas, Rhian Thomas and Pat Barker 25 points.

On October 15, a nine hole White Elephant was played: 1st Sue Bridle 37 net, 2nd Angela Brown 38.5 net, 3rd Louise Wilding 40 net.

On October 29, the first nine hole Turkey trot was played: 1st Lisa Ryley 33.5 net, 2nd Louise Wilding 35 net on back six from Sue Bridle (35 net) on back three from Ann Mahenthiralingam (35 net).

RY

Evan's Ffos Las double

LLANCARFAN'S Evan Williams, the leading trainer at Ffos Las, saddled his 48th winner at Britain's youngest racecourse when notching a double with Get It On and Capilla on Tuesday.

The former, confidently ridden by Conor Ring, took the AVA Security Handicap Chase just three days after winning at Chepstow and the latter won the 32Red.Com Standard Open National Hunt Flat Race by four lengths from the odds-on favourite Red Devil Lads, ridden by champion jockey A P McCoy.

Capilla, who was partnered by Adam Wedge, was a 6-1 chance and Get It On went off the even money favourite.

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Mission church youth club gets 'wish list' gift



YOUNG people at the Luchana Mission youth club can now play on a multi-games pool table, thanks to a £200 donation from Newydd Housing Association.

The Mission church has been running a traditional youth club in Cadoxton for around 40 years, open to young people aged 4 – 18

years old.

Rev Danks and Mrs Danks who run the youth club, said: "The children and teenagers have recently had their youth club hall refurbished and this has allowed us to purchase a multi-purpose games table, which was an item on our 'wish list'.

The table converts from a football game to table hockey, table tennis and pool table, meaning that

youngsters now have a bigger variety of games to play. Thank you so much Newydd for your generous donation."

Paul Roberts, chief executive of Newydd said: "As a housing association, supporting the areas where our tenants live is important to us. We want to help local community groups to ensure that we make our communities a better place to live."

"We hope that young people at the Luchana Mission Youth Club will enjoy many hours of fun using their games table."

The Luchana Mission Church was founded in 1895 by Church of England missionaries, who visited the large number of workmen's families who were in the Cadoxton area when the docks and railways were being built. As a result, many of these families became Christians and then founded a place of worship in Cadoxton which survives until this day.

MW

ALL SAINTS GOES ON AIR

THE BBC recently visited All Saints Church, Penarth, to record two editions of the 'Celebration' act of worship for Radio Wales.

A church spokesperson said: "All Saints was delighted to welcome friends from other Penarth churches to be part of this exciting opportunity to share our worship with the 40,000 regular listeners to the programme."

The first of the two services was broadcast on Sunday, October 27, and can be accessed via BBC iPlayer at: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0079fvx/episodes/p-layer.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009 PART 4: MARINE LICENSING APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE TO CONSTRUCT A CONCRETE ACCESS RAMP, CWM COLHUW BEACH

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Section 68 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, that Vale of Glamorgan Council has applied, to Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, for a marine licence to construct a concrete access ramp at Cwm Colhuw Beach (Llantwit Major).

The application and plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA and at The Town Hall, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SD.

Representations or objections in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Marine Licensing Team, Cardiff Permitting Centre, Natural Resources Wales, 29 Newport Road, Cambria House, Cardiff, CF24 0TP. In your representation/objection please include an address to which correspondence may be sent.

Representations or objections should be made within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: CML1340

Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, will pass to the applicant a copy of any representation or objection received.

Dated this 31st day of October 2013

M. E. Punter
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA



YSGOL BRO MORGANNWG.

Pupils prove that they still love a good read!



PETERSTON SUPER ELY SCHOOL.

THE Vale's most voracious readers have won awards for taking part in the 'Summer Reading Challenge' at libraries across the county.

The theme for this year's challenge, which was run by the Reading Agency and taken up by 97 per cent of libraries in the UK, was 'Creepy House'.

Aimed at four to 12-year-olds, the challenge encourages children to keep reading over the summer holidays. Children who took part in the challenge had to read six library books over the summer,

receiving stickers and small prizes along the way.

During Children's Book Week (October 7 – 11), Cowbridge

Library staff visited local schools to hand out certificates to pupils who completed the challenge.

Community librarian

Melanie Weeks said: "We always hear that children today don't read enough anymore. But the popularity of this challenge proves that children still have a great appetite for the written word – for sto-

ries, characters and adventures.

"We had a fantastic response this year – in Cowbridge Library alone, 316 children registered to take part and 216 completed the challenge."

LLANGAN SCHOOL, CREEPY HOUSE CERTIFICATE CEREMONY.

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF Y MÔR A MYNEDIAD I'R ARFORDIR 2009 RHAN 4: TRWYDDEDU MOROL CAIS AM DRWYDDED FOROL I ADEILADU RAMP MYNEDIAD O GONCRIT, TRAETH CWM COL-HUW

Hysbysir drwy hyn, yn unol â Rhann 4 pennod 1 Adran 68 Deddf y Môr a Mynediad i'r Arfordir 2009, fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi cyflwyno cais i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, sy'n gweithredu ar ran yr Awdurdod trwyddedu, am drwydded forol i adeiladu ramp mynediad o goncrit ar traeth Cwm Col-huw (Llanilltud Fawr).

Gellir gweld y cais a'r cynlluniau sy'n dangos safle'r gwaith yng Nghanolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvô, CF5 6AA a Neuadd y Dref, Llanilltud Fawr, CF61 1SD.

Dylid cyflwyno sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau ysgrifenedig parthed y cais hwn i'r Tîm Trwyddedu Morol, Canolfan Drwyddedu Caerdydd, Tŷ Cambria, 29 Heol Casnewydd, Caerdydd CF24 0TP. Dylech gynnwys yn eich sylw/gwrthwynebiad gyfeiriad y gellir anfon gohebiaeth iddo.

Dylid cyflwyno sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau cyn pen 28 diwrnod o ddyddiad y rhybudd hwn, gan ddyfynnu cyfeirnod: CML1340

Bydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, gan weithredu ar ran yr Awdurdod Trwyddedu, yn trosglyddo i'r ymgydd gopi o'r sylw neu wrthwynebiad a dderbynnir.

Dyddiedig 31 Hydref 2013

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvô, CF5 6AA.



Vale MP sparks debate on future of the BBC

VALE MP Alun Cairns sparked a debate on the future of the BBC in Parliament last week.

Mr Cairns raised questions surrounding the broadcaster's response following scandals such as Jimmy Savile, executive pay-offs and called for greater financial transparency.

He said: "The debate allowed us to understand the wide range of views held and hear some helpful suggestions for how the BBC

can develop and respond to the changing needs in the new media age.

"Although the organisation has a unique place within British Society, this does not mean that it should be above scrutiny."

The Vale MP has been campaigning for greater transparency of the BBC's finances. He also introduced a Ten Minute Rule Bill last November that called for all invoices in excess of £500 to be published.

Hospital's 80th birthday recalls its rich history



• The Music in Hospital string quartet, playing on the day.

PATIENTS, staff and the public have been thanked for making the 80th birthday celebrations of University Hospital, Llandough, a success.

A full day of events marked the opening of the hospital in 1933, including a special concert and the launch of a new 'living' museum.

Maria Battle, Chair of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, opened the museum and said: "A lot of hard work has gone in to mark this special day and it is just the beginning. "Today is about the past, present but also acknowledges a magnificent future for the hospital which will soon have some of the best mental health facilities in Wales."

Dr Peter Beck, Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan and a consultant at the hospital for 30 years, opened the new museum and said what a great pleasure it was to see so many items from

the past.

The hospital has enjoyed a rich history since it was officially opened and was the home to the first cystic fibrosis unit and first kidney transplant in Wales.

Peter Welsh, the hospital's general manager, said the rich history was now captured within the new museum, thanks to donations from across the UK.

Prizes were presented to local schoolchildren who had taken part in an art competition, as part of the 80th celebrations.

Sully School's Joe Doust won the first prize in the individual section with fellow pupil Anna Beatrice Friedl placed second.

Children and teachers from Llantwit Major Art Group collected first prize in the school competition with Llandough Primary School winning second place.

Events at the hospital included performances from Music in Hospital's string quartet, 1930s themed dinners for patients and staff, a visit from police and community teams and a celebra-

tory concert marking the anniversary.

The hospital's new choir performed several numbers and received a standing ovation for their *Les Miserables* medley.

Mr Welsh added: "Over the last five to six years we've seen over £200 million spent to develop the hospital, which I'm sure will continue to develop as a centre of excellence."



• Pictured above are Joe Doust, Marie Battle, and Anna Friedl.

Airport promotes Wales at conference

CARDIFF Airport and Visit Wales, the Welsh Government's tourism team, joined forces to promote Wales at the recent World Routes conference and held meetings with over 30 airlines, developing prospects as part of the ongoing strategy to expand the airport's route network.

One success at the event was the airport finalising arrangements with Flybe for the recently announced ski flights to Geneva, Chambéry, Lyon and Grenoble.

The annual conference held this year in the

Las Vegas Convention Centre, with numbers of over 2,700, is the largest on record with delegates from 300 airlines, 750 airports and 100 tourist authorities.

World Routes is the biggest industry event and the combined presence from Cardiff Airport and Visit Wales ensured Wales made a big impression.

Commenting on the event, CEO of Cardiff Airport, Jon Horne said: "This year's Routes Conference was a great success for us. Working closely with Visit Wales, we were able to really make an impression with

the airlines we are targeting and get the message out there that Cardiff Airport is back and above all open for business."

He continued: "Attending World Routes is an important part of our programme of getting the attention of airlines once again and this was achieved."

"It was all the more pleasing having secured the Flybe business at the event itself as well, and announcing this on the day we returned to Wales. We are confident there is more success to come."

PLEASE SPARE A THOUGHT FOR OUR HEDGEHOGS

EVERY year, an unknown number of hedgehogs die or suffer horrific injuries because bonfire piles are not checked before being lit.

To save hedgehogs and other wildlife from appalling suffering the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) urges that bonfires should not be built until the day they are to be lit.

This will not only save wildlife from burning to death but will also stop the bonfire from getting soaked should it rain the night before!

Fay Vass, chief executive of BHPS, said: "Piles of bonfire material look like five star hotels to a hedgehog in search of a hibernation

site. It is crucial to dismantle and move bonfire material that has been stored in advance on open ground.

"Move it to another spot just before lighting. "Ensure it's moved to clear ground - never on top of a pile of leaves as there could be a hedgehog underneath, and not too close to pampas grass which can ignite very easily and is another favourite spot for hedgehogs to hide under."

Society Patron Ben Fogle added: "It's awful to think of poor hedgehogs being burnt alive on bonfire night.

"Please, please check fire piles carefully before lighting them. Hedgehogs are a species in decline, every single one is precious."

Bridge at Aberthyn

THE Aberthyn Village Hall bridge improvers competition was organised by Lian Sherridan, John Beard and John Moore and was a wonderful experience for people who had only been playing for a short time.

A great time was had by all, with lunch served at half time.

The hall holds improver classes, starting with a 15-minute lesson followed by help at the table, between 1.30pm and 4.30pm every Friday.

We are delighted that a local pair, Dennis Smith and Kath Jenkins took first place.

RESULTS (North/South): 1, John Whateley and James Mangles; 2, Shirey McGill and Richard Alley; 3, Luba Ashworth and Dorothy Issac; 4, Mora Cuthill and Ann Richards; 5, Sian Jenkins and Simone Ballett; 6, June Williams and Cathy Mangles; 7, Colin Lewis and Terri Pollard; 8, Chris Morgan

and Fran Morgan; 9, Barrie Jenkins and Vanessa Beecham; 10, Rey and Camelia Veegee.

RESULTS (East/West): 1, Dennis Smith and Kath Jenkins; 2, Sara Bartlett and Glenda Roberts; 3, Peter Halligan and Liz Halligan; 4, Rex Chess and Iris Carey; 5, Dave Lea and Debbie Lea; 6, John Hyde and Fiona

Hyde; 7, Jennie Barrett and Maureen Hill; 8, Chritar Whittaker and Pat Marke; 9, Cath Williams and Jackie Hawkes; 10, June Greaves and Ann Harris. Overall winners were Dennis Smith and Kath Jenkins. Runners-up were John Whateley and James Mangles, and third were Sara Bartlett and Glenda Roberts.

JB

Barrivale results



ABOVE: Sean Macdougall and Dave Thomas, who won the Nancy Malpas Memorial trophy for improving players.

RESULTS from Barrivale Bridge Club for October 22:

1st, Mike Close & Denis Mottram 68.33%; 2nd, Kay Dyer & Mark Roderick 68.1%; 3rd, Cynthia Luen & Diana Kendrick 60.42%. Cynthia and Diana won on handicap

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425., or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. MB

Jayden (13) boxes clever

JAYDEN LLOYD, aged 13, from Barry has won the 2013 Welsh novice boxing title. He was victorious on October 13 at Blaen-y-Maes Community Centre, Swansea. Jayden trains with Splott Adventure ABC under coaches, Pat Mahoney and James Mwasigallah.

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Bob could be just the job for you!

THIS WEEK, the centre spokeswoman highlights Bob, a two-year-old Border Collie - a lovely lad who, as a Collie, is typically bright...

"We think he must have come from a working background, and that is what we would like to find for him now. He would be really great in a home with owners who will do lots with him, particularly something like agility which will keep both his mind and body busy.

"He is great with other dogs, and will be a treat to continue training. Bob is a very bright dog who will be a star in the right hands."

If you would like to know any more about Bob, please do call us on 01656 725219, or pop in to Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12pm-4pm every day except Monday, with late night opening until 7.30pm on a Wednesday. We also have plenty of other dogs, of all shapes and sizes looking for lovely homes.



WHAT'S ON in brief

Romilly fayre A CHRISTMAS fayre will be held at Romilly Primary on Sunday, November 24 from 1pm-4pm.

Many craft stalls, games for the children, including sumo suits, duel jousting, giant dart board, bouncy castle with slide. Also Santa's grotto and refreshments.

Ward advice LABOUR councillors Claire Curtis and Anthony Powell will be holding a drop-in advice surgery for residents of Dyfan ward on Saturday, November 2 at Colcot Community Centre, Keats Way, Barry, from 11am to 12pm. No appointment is necessary.

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219)

PENCOED RFC ROUND-UP Phoenix are in dominant form



ABOVE: A try by lady of the match Jade Mullen.
ALL PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK



A try by the other lady of the match, Debra Evans,

IT was a disappointing weekend for male rugby at Pencoed RFC, with all sections losing.

The First XV lost at Pontyclun 24-17. In a close game, which was a good spectacle, both sides looked as if they could win. Pencoed had chances at the end to at least draw level. It showed that standards in the west and east are on a par.

The Second XV lost 20-10 at home to Maesteg Celtic in the District Cup. Pencoed fielded a weakened side due to first team call-ups. Nevertheless, it was a very gritty performance, to be more than satisfied with.

The Youth lost 14-10 away to Glan Conwy in Welsh Youth Cup, picking up three yellow cards. The referee played lots of injury time, in which Glan Conwy scored.

Pencoed Firsts play Morriston at home next. The club has celebrations starting on November 8 with a 'Question of sport'. Teams of six can enter and there is £50 prize money. Contact the club on 01656 861052.

Pencoed Phoenix 22 v Croesyceiliog 0

With terrible weather conditions to deal with, Phoenix started the game with good intent and moved the ball through good hands with Nerys Lloyd and Micheala Excell given space to run into Croesy's 22.

With Phoenix dominant in the scrum, it was a pity that scrum half Amy Stevens picked up a yellow card. Katie Murphy made a break and linked up with returning player Jade Mullen who passed to support players Mel Clay and Jamie Jones.

The scrum for Croesy was stolen by a big Phoenix push which drove the opposition back.

The skipper for Phoenix, Lowri Reeves, took the ball forward, almost reaching the try line and Debra Evans took the ball on to open the score (5-0).

At the restart, Croesy attacking ball was played into Phoenix's half and won back by Phoenix. This provided



Nerys Lloyd with the ball.

talented, quick-footed Leanne Burnell with a chance to brush off two tackles and run in with a half-way dash to the line, scoring between the posts.

Mel Clay converted to bring the score to (12-0).

On the next phase of play, Phoenix showed good hands from the backs and forwards for Nerys Lloyd to score a well-deserved try, making the score 17-0.

In the second half, Phoenix gave away silly penalties and as a result, Croesy were able to get closer to Phoenix's try line. With exceptional scrummaging by they won the ball and cleared.

Fine back play gave Jade Mullen her try (22-0). The pack for Phoenix were so much in control that it had become a frustrating match for Croesy.

The final score was 22-0 to Phoenix. A win and another bonus point.

Ladies of the match were Jade Mullen and Debra Evans.

Next up for Phoenix – their last match before breaking for regional rugby – is Blaenau Gwent on 3rd November away.

ROWERS WIN BEST NEW CLUB AWARD



Some of the Barry rowers receiving their award.

Hockey club hit for six!

PENARTH Hockey Club's 1st XI saw its unbeaten start to the season ended in dramatic fashion as visitors Lydney ran up the score in their top-of-the-table Davis Wood Hockey League clash.

Before the game, which featured first and second in the De Cymru and The Marches Division 1, Penarth knew that this would be their toughest challenge of the season so far, with Lydney having only lost to a strong Cardiff & Met B side and winning their other three games convincingly.

Nevertheless, the home side started well and should have taken the lead, but squandered some golden opportunities to go ahead. As a result, it was Lydney who struck first, catching Penarth on the break and finishing well.

The visitors then doubled their lead as Penarth found themselves caught at the back for a second time and, with the first half remaining fairly even in terms of possession, Penarth clearly felt aggrieved when they found themselves 3-0 down following a composed finish that gave the Lydney striker a first-half hat-trick.

Penarth managed to pull one back before the break through Tom Harran, but the next goal would undoubtedly prove vital to the outcome of the game.

Unfortunately for the Vale side, it was Lydney who struck, putting the game to bed early in the half. Although Penarth kept pushing forward in search of goals, the visitors were well drilled and

gave little away at the back. Their strong defence, combined with some fantastic attacking players, who finished at almost every opportunity, eventually saw the game end 6-1.

Penarth felt a little hard done by after some bizarre umpiring prevented them from playing their direct attacking style of hockey – something that was not helped by some flamboyant diving by the Lydney players who appeared to have been watching too much Italian football – but the home side were far from their best, and sloppy errors in every area were ultimately what cost them the match.

The result sees Penarth slip to third place, on goal difference, in a closely-fought division, and they will look to show the resolve necessary to get back to the top of the table at the earliest opportunity.

That could come this weekend, as the First XI travels across the Severn to take on Lansdown, while the Second XI returns to action after a bye week, hosting old rivals Abergegnwy at Barry Sports Centre.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sport Centre every Wednesday, with the juniors in action between 6-7pm and senior between 7-8pm.

Further information can be obtained from club secretary Dave Stevens at: d.stevens81@hotmail.co.uk.

FROM its formation in February, the sea rowing section at Barry Yacht Club has grown beyond early expectations.

Using an out of class Celtic longboat, the Barry Rowers have been travelling to the Welsh Sea Rowing Association southern league races competing against modern boats.

Their enthusiasm has won them the respect of seasoned rowers from around the Welsh coast.

At the annual WSRA dinner and prizegiving, the rowers received a magnificent ovation on being awarded the trophy for the 'Best New Club'.

To continue rowing during the winter, arrangements have been agreed with Associated British Ports to keep a long boat in the dock.

This will enable rowing to take place on weekends without tidal restraints, an ideal opportunity for anyone interested in trying out rowing to have a trial row and be assured of a place in the many events planned for next year.

You can just row socially or in the competitive league events; check out the Barry Yacht Club website and the rowing section for details, pictures and contact details.

RD

Trinity wins gold in top event

On October 16 – 20 World Union of Karate-do Federations held a European Championship for the first time in Great Britain.

It is one of the most prestigious events held within the Karate calendar.

More than a thousand top Karate students attended from all over Europe.

The Karate Wales governing body entered a squad (coached by Robert Copeland, from Barry) at the championship in Sheffield, England.

One of the several medal winners was Trinity Hutchinson from the Karate Jutsu club in Penarth, run by Lee Costa.

She achieved a gold medal in her fighting category, making her the first female to win a gold medal for Wales in this event.

Bombettes grab bonus point victory

ON a windy but bright afternoon, the Bombettes entertained

back into the game with an unconverted try down the right, Barry then produced their best passing phase of the game.

Tylorstown.

The home side used the power of their forwards to make constant inroads, into the 'Tylor' defence, with a new starting front row of Horne, Hill, and Cahill and fresh back row combination of Perry, Husk and No 8 Yapp carrying the ball strongly.

No 9 Shanhan used her sniping skills to good effect and when required used her power. Williams at No 10 used intelligent kicks several times to keep the away defence thinking.

Perry showed what a good acquisition she has been, breaking down the left from her own half, and powering her way through two tacklers and touching down for an impressive first score.

Barry started turning the screw and from a solid scrum, the blindsides overlap was exploited brilliantly by the home backs for Britton to power over for her first try.

The away side came

From strong forward play Binnie crossed for a try, which was converted.

The Bombettes then scored the killer try as Shanahan broke down the right and touched down behind the posts. The conversion was duly kicked by Jones (c) to make it 24-5.

Tylorstown scored a second try which was unconverted. Barry again tried to re assert themselves but the away side had the 'bit' between their teeth and in the last play of the game, and with Jones off the field, the away side forced their way over for a third try.

Team: O'Neil, Day-Smith, Binnie, K Jones (c), Britton, Williams, Shanahan, Yapp, Husk, Perry, Garner-Joel, Hellmore, Cahill, Hill, Horne.

Subs: Phillips, Ka Jones, McCarthy.

Barry woman of the match was Perry, while Tylorstown chose Cahill.

AM

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- 4. I have ABS and ESP: that will do?**
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- 5. I am well insured**
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- 6. Can I mount tyres on the drive axle only?**
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- 7. I don't need Winter tyres – I have a 4x4!**
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BARRY RUGBY CLUB RUGBY ROUND-UP

DINAS POWYS EDGE Set piece torment for the seconds in Rhiwbina

BARRY OUT OF CUP

THESE near neighbours met at the Reservoir Field, Barry, last Saturday in the second round of the SWALEC Bowl competition.

The weather was kind for the time of year with no rain and only a variable wind to deal with.

The home side made a positive start with some good driving play from the forwards. This ensured that the visitors were fully engaged in defensive duties.

Dinas, however, were soon able to turn the tables with some effective forward play of their

BARRY RFC 5 DINAS POWYS RFC 9

own. This situation resulted in a yellow card for the home side for what was adjudged to be a deliberate knock forward in the three-quarter line.

The penalty, from close range, was slotted over to give the lead after 25 minutes.

Barry went into the lead soon afterwards with clever work by Evans and White, giving Degaura the opportunity to cross the line near the corner flag. The difficult conversion sailed only just wide.

The referee was

demonstrating welcome attention to the need for straight putting in at the set scrummage. Unfortunately for Barry, it was they who transgressed in this regard too close to their own line, and the visitors made no mistake with a penalty to regain the lead.

Barry came more into the picture as halftime approached with significant contributions from Tanner and Hollister.

The second session saw Barry with the advantage of slope and wind. However, the visitors appeared to be a

team with the greater hunger, while Barry seemed to retreat, with their game showing little bite.

After 20 minutes or so, the home side were unfortunate to concede a penalty for a marginal high tackle. Again it was within kicking distance, giving Dinas another successful penalty shot.

Soon after Barry rang the changes from the bench, but it hardly improved proceedings. The visitors then began to dominate both possession and territory in a most efficient manner.

There was a late flourish from Barry, but they could not quite escape from the Dinas defenders. A 9-5 win for Dinas Powys was a fair reflection of the game as a whole.

Barry: Ryan, Adams, L.O'Sullivan, Hardy, White, R.O'Sullivan, Mephram, Scott, O.Poole, Giddings, Tanner, Degaura, Hollister, Evans, Lundy.

Replacements: Hammonda, Jennings, Oaten, T.Poole.

This Saturday Barry entertain Cowbridge at the Reservoir Field with kick-off at 2.30pm.

CO

BARRY second XV opened their Mallet Cup campaign with a trip to league leaders Rhiwbina.

Coach Rhidian Scott and manager Ken Chow were struck with more injury woes and were therefore forced to call up youth fly-half Jordan Flynn, while also recalling Joe McCann and Lee David.

Joel Williams made the switch from outside half to scrum half.

Barry began the game against the wind and were predicted to struggle against a mobile and well-organised Rhiwbina side.

However, the green-and-whites defied all expectations as they dominated the contact area right from the off, forcing the home side to concede a series of penalties.

Jordan Flynn was on hand to benefit as he stroked over one within his range to give his side a three point lead.

Rhiwbina tried to play a smooth, flowing style of rugby, but were finding the Barry defence in uncompromising mood.

Luke Hewitson was excelling at his role in the back row, with important contributions by King, David and Lee Jones as well.

Instead, it was the away side who further increased the lead with another penalty by Flynn.

Unfortunately, Barry

were struggling to win any of the set pieces.

The scrum, so frequently a bedrock for the visitors, was creaking badly and it was from such a platform that Rhiwbina responded with a well-worked converted try.

Barry immediately replied with a penalty opportunity which was struck wide by Flynn, but they kept up the pressure on the home side and were forcing errors.

From a quick turnover Dave Williams kicked ahead, charging for the line, and Joel Williams was on hand to ground in the corner. Flynn missed the extras.

At halftime, the game was in the balance, with Barry leading 11-7 and ruffling home feathers with their aggressive work in the contact area.

It would take a stroke of genius or a moment of madness for the game to swing either way. Unfortunately for Barry, it was the latter. Ryan Corrigan suffered a rush of blood and was rightly sin-binned for a late tackle, and in the ten minutes where Barry had a man disadvantage, they conceded 14 points.

Rhiwbina did not relinquish the lead again.

Even with the introduction of the players from the bench and Barry back to their full complement of players, they were unable to stop the onslaught as they tired towards the final

whistle.

Corrigan was penalised again near his own posts, with the home side accepting the three points, before a breakthrough try in the corner sealed the victory.

To their credit, Barry never gave up and had the final say in the game.

The green-and-whites finally set a solid foundation in the scrum, and a simple move saw Hewitson crash over from close range for a deserved score.

Despite the result this was easily the best performance by the second XV this season and the coaching staff will be pleased with the efforts of the players.

The second XV return to league action, again away to Rhiwbina, while the third XV are away at Old Iltydians this Saturday.

Team: Lee, Corrigan, D Williams, McCann, Evans, Flynn, J Williams, Pirso, Turnbull, Elsworth, King, David, L Jones, Hewitson, Rolfe (c); Replacements: Thomas, Ring, N Jones, Case; man-of-the-match: Lee David.

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KEN CHOW

Bombettes snatch a bonus point win

FOLLOWING a horrendous downpour during the journey up to play Maesteg Celtic, both Celtic and the Barry Bombettes were relieved to see the sun rear its head for the game.

The Bombettes started the game brightly and were looking to get the ball out wide. Unfortunately, having created the overlaps, the final pass was frustratingly either knocked on or didn't quite reach the player.

The Barry pack were awesome in the scrums and created quality ball for their backs. Following five minutes of sustained pressure midway through the half, the breakthrough came.

After moving the Maesteg defence around their 22, the ball was moved through the backs for centre Fox to touch down.

From the restart, Helmore took another difficult ball and charged into the home defence. The forwards drove the ball on, but Maesteg countered. From a resultant Barry infringement in front of the posts Maesteg opted for the easy points.

Barry then took the game by the scruff of the neck and with the advantage of their forward platform, pinned Maesteg back into their 22. The ball was brilliantly moved by the backs to the right wing where winger Day-Smith and O'Neill showed great continuity and support play setting up another attacking ruck.

G Williams then set off on a cross-field run, breaking through the daze defence, allowing captain Jones to power over. She duly converted her own try.

Of note, No 6 Perry made a couple of telling breaks to keep the pressure on Maesteg and No 15 O'Neill countered at every opportunity superbly. However, with halftime looming, Maesteg had their best phase of the game, forcing the away side back deep into their 22. The Barry defence and in particular their pack again turned over Maesteg ball and the halftime whistle came.

The elements were now in favour of Barry and they started strongly again. The Barry backs were combining well with training moves between Williams, Fox and Jones paying dividends; the handling was at times sublime in the conditions.

Barry, however were kept on their toes and were indebted to No 9 Shanahan making a try-saving tackle, deep in our 22. Jones was playing a captain's game, in both defence and attack.

The referee was slightly harsh in some of his interpretations of the five second 'use it or lose it rule' and the breakdown area. However, Barry must learn not to give dissent, after losing 10 metres.

Helmore, who had left everything on the pitch, was replaced by Coleman in the boiler house. Cahill and Garner-Joel were involved in good drives as they looked to seal the victory.

From a solid scrum the ball was shipped left and a great inter change of passes between Binnie and Jones made 30 metres. Barry then had a period of sustained pressure deep in the home 22.

Shanahan then started the move for the killer try, after Yapp and her forwards had forced Maesteg back. Shanahan fed Garner-Joel, who off-loaded to Binnie who, after being tackled just shy, found Garner-Joel supporting brilliantly to pick up the loose ball for Fox to power over for her second try. Jones converted majestically to make it 3-17.

The kicking game was being used intelligently by Barry. Replacements were well used to provide fresh legs, McCarthy replacing Ka Jones in the front row and wingers Britton and Rees replacing the excellent Binnie and Day-Smith.

Barry sniffed the bonus point and just when the spectators thought they had missed the opportunity they snatched it. From a solid scrum, Barry turned over Maesteg ball and pounded the home try line.

The ball was again passed out by the reliable Shanahan to No 4 Garner-Joel, who gave Fox the time and space to feed Britton to force her way over the whitewash. The conversion was missed, to make the final score Maesteg 3, Barry 24.

Team: O'Neil, Day-Smith, K Jones (c), Fox, Binnie, Williams, Shanahan, Yapp, Husk, Perry, Garner-Joel, Helmore, Cahill, Hill, Ka Jones. Substitutes: Phillips, Coleman, Britton, McCarthy, Rees and Bannister.

Barry woman of the match was awarded to Fox and Maesteg chose Shanahan.

The management would like to congratulate the whole team for an excellent team performance and a superb victory. The bonus point victory was due reward for the performance. Maesteg battled hard but never looked like scoring any tries, due to the excellent Barry defence.

The Bombettes next match is home on Sunday, November 3 to local rivals Sea View, kick off 2.30pm. AM

Atoms scrape win after dream start

BARRY ATOMS entertained Welsh speaking Cymru Caerdydd and almost slipped up after a crazy five minute spell.

Never was the saying 'a game of two halves' so true.

The Atoms started off the first half with real intent and it wasn't long before they were a try up thanks to good organised passing and controlled passes starting from the backs, going first inside then out wide and culminating in a try finished by Daf.

They controlled the game in large parts and were rewarded with further tries finished by Iestyn E, Cai and Daf again.

The pleasing thing in the tries scored was the unselfish actions of players doing the right things and putting the boys in for these tries. (A mention to Daf who certainly had his kicking boots on and converted all our tries).

In the second half the Atoms made wholesale substitutions which may have been a mistake, rather than rolling them throughout the game.

The Atoms suddenly looked a different side and in a crazy five minute spell found themselves staring at four unanswered and converted tries.

Atoms then scored again but failed to convert.

Something had to be done as the Atoms were in danger of imploding; the side was shuffled and started to get its shape back.

The boys composed themselves and with just a few minutes to go the ball came out from wide play into the hands of Zak who duly put in a fine run and scored; this was converted by Daf.

Now the Atoms were sweating at two points up with Caerdydd in possession.

The Atoms held Cymru Caerdydd up, steadied the defence, got turnover ball and saw out the game for a nervy win.

It was a cracking game, which was packed with skill, tinged with several mistakes and finally topped off with passion and the will to win.

It brought a plea from the coach: "Please, boys don't put my pacemaker through this!"

Final score Atoms 35 Cymru Caerdydd 33.

Squad: Iestyn N, Owen, Jack L, Connor, Dylan, Iestyn E, Kaiden, Rhys, Ethan, Jack N, Jack R, Daf, Fin G, Cai, Tom M, Jake, Zak.

Stratford winner

ABERTHIN'S Tim Vaughan took the opener at Stratford with five-year-old King Rolfe who was ridden by Aidan Coleman.

The 13-2 chance won by two and a quarter lengths from Sir Valentino.

BRIAN LEE

Bees stung into action!

BARRY Bees under-11s entertained Tondy on a blustery Sunday morning at the Reservoir Fields; despite the difficult conditions, both sides were determined to play quality rugby.

After their previous lacklustre performance the Bees started the game at a frantic pace.

The forwards dominated early possession, winning a stream of quick balls which the backs exploited adroitly.

Cole Saunders crashed through the Tondy defence, after a switch move, to open the scoring.

Barry continued to pile on the early pressure, and after a number of flowing phases, centre Jacob Pereira cut inside to score an excellent try.

Tondy refused to capitulate. They launched a series of blistering attacks.

The Barry defence was resolute, limiting the visitors to one score, to make the score at halftime 10-5 to the Bees.

Tondy continued to press at the start of the second half; after a long period of pressure, which saw the Bees camped on their line, the visitors deservedly levelled the scores.

This stung the Bees into action; their response was incisive, launching a stunning attack from a scrum on the halfway line, and the backs cut through the Tondy defence with Cole finishing expertly.

Barry maintained the initiative and after another slick move, Cian Anderson scythed through the visitors' defence to restore Barry's two try lead.

Again Tondy responded magnificently, dominating the next phase of the game.

The Barry defence was exceptional, holding off attack after attack; but, with a series of penalties in their favour, the visitors brought themselves back into the game to level the score 20-20.

However, the Bees would not be denied, and finished the game in style.

The forwards regained the initiative, and once again the backs capitalised, Cole finishing another quality move.

Tondy threw everything at Barry in a final effort to save the game; but the Barry tackling was outstanding, and they held out for a deserved win, 25-20.

All the players contributed to what was a great team performance.

Squad: Isaac McBride, Rhys Lloyd, Charlie Bale, Dylan Morris, Ryan Stephenson, Stephen Williams, Cian Anderson, Jacob Pereira, Cole Saunders, Robson Mallam, Spencer Williams, Joe Tanner, Cameron Foster.

JM

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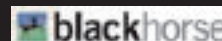
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GEM sport

Tightest of margins costs Athletic dear

FOR the third successive week, the Athletic played a game decided by a two-point margin – on this occasion they were on the wrong end of a 23-21 defeat by local rivals Llanharan.

Llanharan, with first half wind advantage, took an early lead through an outside half Cody Rees penalty. The Athletic's stand-off Steven Lewis replied in kind. The first try of the game went to the visitors when a patient build up going through the phases led to a try for wing Harry Davies. Rees converted from the touchline to put the visitors 10-3 ahead. Another Rees penalty extended the lead to 13-3.

The last five minutes of the half saw the Athletic pouncing away at the visitors' try line. The pressure saw a number of penalties awarded which the Athletic ran.

Finally, the constant infringing saw a Llanharan player awarded a yellow card. From the resultant penalty, centre Rhys Jones took a quick tap penalty and forced his way over the try line. Unfortunately, as with two earlier penalties, Lewis failed to add the extras, leaving the Athletic trailing 13-8 at half time, when they could so easily have led by 16-13.

Just after the restart, Lewis partially redeemed himself with a long range 45-metre penalty from wide out. Two minutes

later, a slightly longer penalty bounced back off the cross bar.

Llanharan responded with a good bout of inter-passing resulting in a try for full back Richard Loverick. Rees converted to put his side 20-11 ahead. Lewis reduced the deficit to 21-14 with his third penalty.

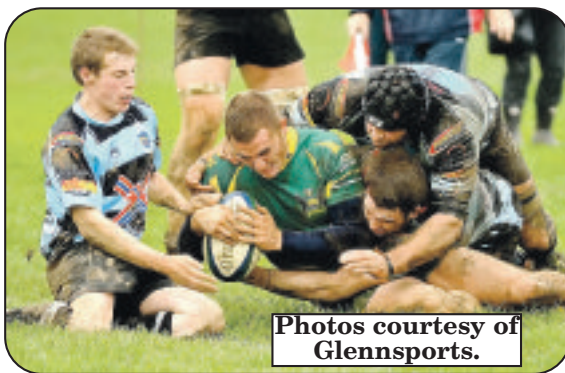
Then, with 12 minutes remaining, a long pass from centre Rhys Jones was picked up 40 metres out by wing Aled Thomas. Thomas rounded his opposite number on the outside then came inside the full back to cross wide out. Lewis put over an excellent conversion to put the Athletic 21-20 ahead.

They were unable to keep the lead as Rees slotted his third penalty, making it five out of five kicks at goal to put his side back in lead at 23-21.

Llanharan easily saw out the game, dominating possession and even taking two strikes against the head in the set scrummages.

Following a very committed display at Bargoed the previous week, the Athletic coaches were very disappointed with the Athletic's overall display. Too many of the forwards were playing at their own pace within their own comfort zone and not contributing enough in broken play. Both forwards and backs were slipping off tackles.

The kicking out of hand was far too often and aimless, allowing Llanharan to come back strongly at the Athletic.



Photos courtesy of Glensports.

Centre Rhys Jones scoring the first Athletic try.

The one really good second half kick from half way to touch five metres from the Llanharan line was marred by petulance and indiscipline when an Athletic player attempted to prevent a quick throw in, resulting in Llanharan relieving the pressure with a penalty.

This Saturday will see the Athletic visit Bonymaen, needing a victory to relieve the pressure near the championship basement, before a three-week championship break for the Autumn Internationals.

An interesting week in training and selection will see how the Athletic address the tackling, commitment, tactical kicking and goal kicking issues that have dogged their progress in a number of winnable games this season.

BRIDGEND Athletic Second XV kept up their 100 per cent record with their seventh win of the season by 27-6 at Gilfach Goch.



Full back Josh White with Marc Bennett in support.

They have amassed 250 points for with 100 against, while crossing the whitewash on 37 occasions and conceding only 11 tries.

Flanker Harry Griffiths with a try brace is now the leading try scorer with six tries to date, while there were single touchdowns for scrum half Stuart Kenny, flanker Chris Whitcombe and hooker Lewis Down. Outside half Tom Cole converted one of the tries.

Lock Jonathan Stoker and hooker Down were the best Athletic forwards while the centre pairing of Michael Hathaway and Shaun Owen stood out in the back division.

ADRIAN BURT

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The Sports find Tondy are tough opposition

BRIDGEND Sports under-10s travelled to Tondy in atrocious conditions and started the first half playing into the wind and driving rain.

Sports had few opportunities to attack, with Tondy dominating possession and scoring first. Thanks to some committed tackling, Sports went in only 7-0 down at half time.

In the second half, Sports upped their game at the breakdown, stealing the ball and spreading it wide. Tondy scored the first try of the half, but Sports quickly hit back with a try by Tom. This was converted by Morgan.

Sports tried to play their usual off loading game despite the conditions, the players linking well. They tried to pass the ball out wide and were unlucky not to score on a number of occasions. Tondy scored the next try but then in the last minute, Sports were camped on the Tondy try line and in the final play of the game, Morgan barged his way over to score

Sports second try, the final score 21-12.

A great determined performance by the boys who put their bodies on the line for the team. MVP went to Jared Phillip for his determination and commitment throughout the game.

Team: Owain Peters, Morgan Rees, Rhys McNally, Rhys Vaughan, Jared Phillip, Mac Francis, Cullen Loynton, Tom Gardner, Rory Lee, James Murray, William Littlewood, Joshua Wilkinson, Luke Yates and Jack Davies.

BRIDGEND Sports under-12s played Treorchy on a wet and windy day.

It was a physical battle with the Sports scoring the first try by Sam Veasey, but it wasn't long before Treorchy equalised, adding another before half time.

The second half was more of the same, with the Sports giving all they had but unable to stop Treorchy scoring twice more.

Final score: Sports 5 - Treorchy 27.



The Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club juniors.

High-achieving juniors move on to next level

IT'S been a year of change for the junior section at Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club.

The club has been blessed with a talented group of youngsters who have grown up together and enjoyed considerable success. This year, however, most of them leave the junior ranks and move on to senior golf.

The group, which has included Jamie Jones, Tom Beale, Tom Fumeaux, Rhodri Booth, Jake Prosser, Ben Vance-Daniel, Brad Young and Tom Brown, have many notable achievements, including back-to-back Glamorgan county titles, as well as taking the Rhys Davies Trophy two years running.

Many of the boys have also represented Glamorgan in various age categories over the last four years. The boys have been a credit to Pyle and it is hoped that they will continue to develop and represent the club at senior level.

As one door closes, another opens and the next generation of talent is

already emerging. Cameron Morris, in particular but also George Beale and Tom Booth are the constants between the old and new and these boys will play a significant part in the team's transitional phase.

The club also has a number of talented younger members who are sure to make an impact. Tom Peet is already the Glamorgan under-12 champion. His younger brother, Sam, is also turning heads. At the age of just eight he has won three competitions and his handicap is down to 30.

Tom Humphreys, aged 11 and son of the former Welsh rugby captain Jonathan, is also a multiple cup winner. These boys are joined by Sean David, whose first win is, no doubt, just around the corner!

Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club welcomes all golfers and the course is open all year round. Contact www.pandkgolfclub.co.uk or secretary@pandkgolfclub.co.uk.

AE

KENFIG HILL TRIUMPH IN CLOSE SWALEC CUP TIE

THIS was a typical Cup tie, with second division Skewen giving their all in an incident-packed game.

The game was scoreless for the first 30 minutes with some exciting open rugby being played and both sides' defensive capabilities were tested to the full.

Skewen finally broke the deadlock with a well-worked try by open side flanker David Morgan, who saw a gap in the home defence and went for it.

The rest of the half continued at the same frantic pace, with neither side able to score.

Half time score: Kenfig Hill 0 Skewen 5.

Kenfig started the second half in a determined manner, putting the visitors under considerable pressure and they were rewarded when scrum half Tom Briggs picked the ball up from the base of a scrum on the visitors' 25 and crossed the line without a defender



Steve Gillard makes a break. (Photos by Peter Gilling).

touching him. Winger Tom Davies made some good runs for Kenfig Hill and came close to scoring twice.

With both sides' defences working well, there was only a penalty apiece for each side in the rest of the second half, Nicky Giles scoring for Kenfig Hill and James Ball for Skewen.

Full time score:- Kenfig Hill 8 Skewen 8.

As the scores were tied, 20 minutes of extra time were played and it was a tribute to both sides' fitness and stamina that there was no let-up in pace for the entire period of extra time.

The first 10 minutes

were scoreless and then James Ball gave the visitors the lead with a penalty.

Kenfig Hill went straight on the offensive from the kick off and a series of rucks and mauls saw substitute prop Ben Uphill power his way over from close range, Giles adding the conversion.

Skewen threw everything into the last minutes of the game, but the Mules' defence were up to the task earning the home side a well-deserved victory.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 15 Skewen 13.

Steve Gillard was named as man of the match for Kenfig Hill



Tom Briggs.

with prop Lewis David outstanding. Winger Tom Davies had an excellent game and full back Raymond Evans had an outstanding second half.

GO'S